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RUTH HOWARD ALLEN
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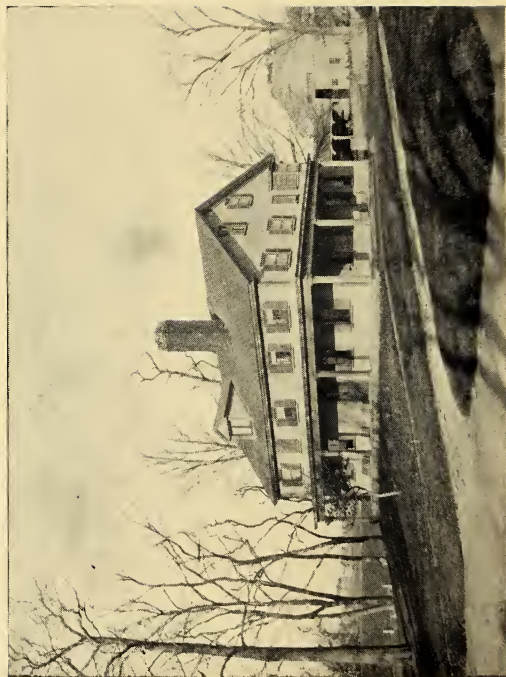
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RESIDENCE OF JUDGE SAMUEL PUTNAM, HOLTEN ST.

Built as a Summer Residence about 1805, near the old

Nathaniel Putnam house which he demolished in 1818

—*Courtesy Essex Institute*

HISTORICAL COLLECTIONS
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VOL. 38

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MEMORIES OF OUR NEIGHBORHOOD
(Holten Street)
A Dialogue

BY ELIZABETH G. PUTNAM AND MARION EATON MULRY

Given at Meeting of Society, January, 1950

(E. P.) Ever since Ralph Abbott's recollections of his boyhood home and neighborhood my thoughts have been turning back to the good times we used to have and the people we used to know. Evidently other minds turned in the same direction judging by the programs Mary Hines Maple and Larry Leach gave us.

Your father was one of those who left particularly pleasant memories among the children. Do you remember how he used to wet down the snow on the hill in the back of your house to make a slide for us, and incidentally, keep us younger ones away from the more dangerous slides in the meadow? What are your most vivid recollections?

(M. M.) One of my earliest recollections is of the spanking I received which came upon me as a result of my over-enthusiasm in turning somersaults from the Putnam front piazza to the lawn under the beech tree. The occasion was a Memorial Day parade, which in those days called for much starch in the laundering of little girls' clothes—and a nicely stiffened bonnet, with strings, didn't stand up too well after a few turns from the porch to the ground! After having brought up a family of my own, I can appreciate my mother's reaction to this exhibition.

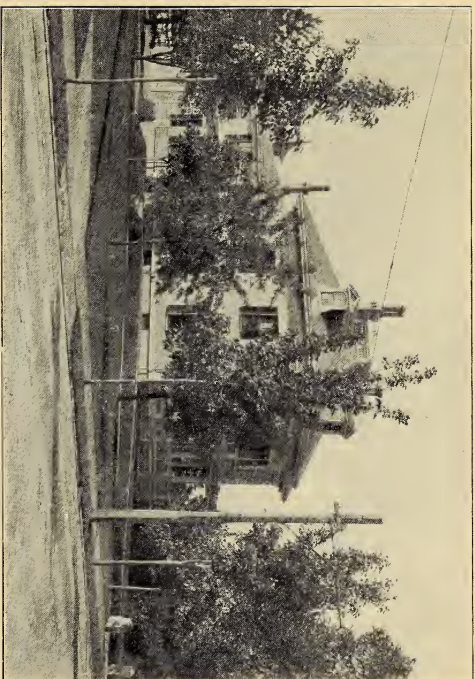
My home at 32 Holten Street was built for my father in 1873 by Nathan Putnam, the builder of many other fine homes

in town, on land purchased from Dr. Charles Putnam. This land was part of the Judge Putnam farm, and as far back as I can remember the success of my father's garden and hayfield was due to the fact that at one time a large barn stood on a certain spot, providing, I presume, an unending source of fertilization.

(E. P.) Did you know that the Conroy house on Charles Street, still the home of Annie and Elizabeth Conroy, was part of that estate, too? It was an ell of the old house which was moved across the fields to Charles Street.

Your father was a doctor in the Civil War, wasn't he? He wasn't a native of Danvers. How did he happen to take up his practice here?

(M. M.) To provide a background for these efforts of mine I will quote from an autobiography that my father once wrote:—"William Winslow Eaton, born at Webster, Maine, May 20, 1836, early education that of a country school, until, influenced by a teacher who was a Bowdoin alumnus, he was persuaded to enter that college. Fitting himself by night study he passed the entrance examinations in 1857, his capital at that time being health, determination, and five dollars in cash. To the honor of the college, rank and wealth were not essentials and the boy 'working his way' was chosen Class Orator in his Freshman year and Poet in his Senior. He graduated in 1861 with every financial debt paid. He had chosen medicine as his profession but before the course was completed he enlisted in defense of the Union and took part in all the major battles of that war between the states, serving his beloved 16th Maine Regiment, first as Hospital Steward, then Assistant Surgeon, and, after being given leave of absence to receive his medical degree from the University of New York, received his commission as Surgeon, which carried with it the rank of Major." At the close of the war he returned to Bowdoin and received his MA degree at the same time that the College conferred an LLD upon his late commander, General Grant; and that same year, on July 12, 1865, to be exact, he married a sweet Brunswick girl, Agnes Magowan. The story of their courtship is a pretty one. It is that of an earnest college boy falling in love with the sweet voice and modest ways of the little Church singer, and of their mutual trust and belief that a Divine Providence would keep them for each other during the years that they were separated. Their letters to and from the battlefields of the Civil War, many of which I have, are beautiful testimonials of their faith.



HOME OF DR. W. W. EATON
No. 32 Holten Street, Danvers
—*Courtesy of Danvers Herald Press*

My mother and a slightly older sister, Susan, had been brought from England as tiny, motherless children by a father who died soon after placing them in the care of his older married daughter. It was in the Brunswick home of Mary and William Postlet that the little girls grew to beautiful womanhood and from this loving foster care went into homes of their own, Susan to die at an early age.

My parents made their first home in South Reading, now Wakefield, Mass. where my eldest brother Bertie was born, later coming to Danvers and occupying the small house on the corner of Holten and Pine Streets in Tapleville. There my sister Susan was born and there my father carried on his practice until the new house at 32 Holten Street was ready for occupancy. That was my birthplace as it was of my older brother Harold, who died in infancy, soon after the death of the first-born son.

(E. P.) That was a good location, and a lovely home which we all enjoyed.

(M. M.) My home was situated on the rise of ground above what was then known as Judge's Hollow, so called after Judge Putnam, a descendant of the original Putnam to whom this land was granted in 1641. It was of the square, two-story and attic type, and was as modern in its day as the Cape Cod or one-floor types are in this generation, and much thought and planning went into its construction. Many of the timbers were brought by ox-team, and much of the inside finish was of wood grown on the place—butternut in one room, apple in another, cherry in the parlor. The outside trim of the front was cut at the Calvin Putnam mill from designs drawn by my father. The front, facing North, was set exactly by the North Star, and the balcony on the roof, which was reached by steep stairs from the attic having a sliding panel at the top, made a fine observation point for watching fires or coming thunder storms. These storms, thanks to my father's wisdom and love of the wonders of Nature, I have never feared, since he often took me with him to watch their approach and discuss their strength and nearness.

The rooms were furnished in the style of that period—the late 70's and early 80's, with carpets that covered the floors from wall to wall, though I think I remember straw-matting in a bed-room or two. There were pictures with heavy gilt frames and mantles draped with silk, on which reposed many ornaments and bric-a-brac. A center table in the sitting-room held a lamp with its decorated shade or globe and one or two

elaborately bound books or an album or two. Many homes had a hair-cloth set but I do not recall one in mine. There were overstuffed and tufted walnut-frame chairs, a red velvet covered couch and a piano with its standing lamp that could be raised or lowered, having a yellow silk shade with trimming of fringe. This was offset by an easel in the bay-window bearing an oil-painting or possibly a portrait of some member of the family and having a silk "throw" draped over one side. It was generally accompanied by a Boston fern or a rubber plant.

The dining room had windows facing South and West, making it a pleasant place in spite of the black walnut furniture. Meals were formal, even breakfast—not a piece of toast and a cup of coffee as one prepares to leave the house, as so often happens today! At dinner the roast or main dish was at my father's place and my mother poured the tea or coffee and cut the bread which stood on a round wooden tray having, "Staff of Life" lettered around the edge. The maid was summoned either by a silver hand-bell or, after the installation of electricity, by a floor-button at my mother's place which rang a "buzzer" in the kitchen. It was not until I was quite grown up that the chafing-dish appeared, the fore-runner of today's buffet service. Sunday night "welch rabbit" suppers then became the last word in informality.

The kitchen was a pleasant place, with a pantry leading from it that was a room in itself, where there was a long shelf for cooking, with storage room underneath for the flour and sugar barrels and shelves above for the spices and cook-books. Many were the wonderful pies and cakes that were assembled there!

At the kitchen sink was an extra faucet from which, when we operated a hand-pump, came beautiful clear cold water from a spring in the cellar which was discovered when the cellar was excavated. This was also used to pump water to a large tank in the attic to provide running water for the bathroom, kitchen and laundry.

All these rooms had to be kept scrupulously clean for my mother was known as a "particular" housekeeper. Even the cellar stairs received their weekly scrubbing. This was accomplished with the help of "hired girls" and a "hired man", all of whom I recall with affection. House-cleaning time called for renewed vigor on the part of everyone. Carpets were taken up and with the mattresses taken out of doors, beaten, and returned after the rooms had received a thorough

cleaning. Sometimes a wait of several days was entailed until the man from J. F. Porter's could come with his "stretcher", hammer, and tacks to relay the carpet.

The front door was used only for special occasions and for the formal calls that ladies made, dressed in their black silks and carrying parasols in season. These calls were of fifteen or twenty minutes' duration so several could be made in an afternoon, calling-cards being left if necessary. However, the side door, leading to my father's office, was where the really interesting things took place. There was a vestibule at that entrance, the outside door having a glass panel surrounded by squares of red, yellow, and blue panes, which from the inside provided a little girl with many-colored pictures of the immediate scenery. In this vestibule was the outlet of a "speaking-tube" which led to my father's bedroom above, and many were the interesting messages and conversations that took place there. Those were pre-telephone days, you understand, and if a doctor was needed in the night, someone had to go to his house and submit the patient's symptoms as well as he could. One case in particular stands out clearly in my memory. It was early morning when the office-bell rang and this wonderful Scotch brogue came booming up the speaking-tube: "Doctor, you'll have to come to see Eliza. She's et a banana and she can't get it oop nor doon!"

Calls of this nature, though they were usually more serious, meant that the doctor had to dress, go to the barn, and by lantern-light harness the horse to buggy or sleigh, and drive, often miles, to care for the ill one. One such occasion I remember well. At late evening a messenger came to say that a beloved patient in North Reading was very ill and must have help soon. I was then of High School age and was allowed to go along. It was early spring and the roads here were fairly free from ice but when we reached the "Scrub Oaks" road we found it a perfect glare. By that time the calks, or sharp points on the horse's shoes had been worn smooth and we drove for what seemed miles and hours, expecting at every step that the poor animal would fall and perhaps break a leg or at least part of the harness. What a relief to see at last the lighted house that we were to visit! I might add that we came home by the Middleton "Paper Mills" road without incident. Rainy day visits I loved. These were often made in what was called the "gig", a two-wheeled affair with a well-rounded hood to which was attached the "boot" or rubber protector which in fine weather was rolled under the front.

The reins passed through a slit on the driver's side, with a bit of isinglass at eye-height through which the road could be seen. This boot made the inside very cozy and, with a warm soap-stone for the feet, a trip to Middleton or West Peabody was a very pleasant occasion. The covered sleigh was another story. While it provided good protection, it tipped over easily and many a spill was recorded, usually with no unpleasant results if the horse was an understanding one. Such was not always the case, and on one or two occasions my father avoided a serious accident only by clinging to the reins until the horse was stopped.

Although I usually went on the longer trips there are many dooryards in Danvers where I have waited with more or less patience. A well-behaved horse allowed one to sit in comfort, but not all were of that nature. Snow held a great attraction for one that I remember and it took all my ingenuity to keep him occupied and his mind off the idea that he would like to roll in it. Horses are knowing creatures. I have heard my father say that he had been out in storms so bad that it was due solely to the wisdom of the animal he was driving that he arrived home at all.

The trip over the Pike to West Peabody or Lynnfield was not a matter of minutes as it is today and to make it less tedious we sometimes tried naming the various sorts of trees that we could see, and in that way I learned their names and distinctions. Local history sometimes came into our talks, as, for instance, the reason for the name of a particular street or locality. One such was in that part of the town still known to many as "Muddy Boo". The story as told to me was that a visitor from the South where bayous or low, watery places were common, spoke of this low land lying between Centre and Andover streets as a "muddy bayou" and the name adapted itself to the New England dialect as "Muddy Boo".

The derivation of many street names was also a diversion. Those named for trees, such as "Ash", "Oak", "Maple", "Poplar", "Cherry", "Elm", etc. are easily understood, but how many people today know that "Braman", "Fletcher", "Wadsworth", "Clark", "Burroughs", "Green", and "Rice" were those of ministers of the First Church? "Holten Street", named for Judge Holten who lived at the corner, and "Collins" for the family who once occupied the Lindens. Water and River Streets may be readily accounted for; also, Preston, Nichols, and Endicott, to mention a few others; but why Purchase or Liberty or Summer which leads into North?

A study of a present-day town poll-tax book with its street names will provide one with some interesting information and perhaps lead to further queries.

At the end of a long trip I was sometimes allowed to go into the patient's house. I can remember standing at my father's side watching him take this and that powder from the little glass vials in the "pocket-case" he carried and assemble them in the squares of paper, also from the case, folding and wrapping each one just so and leaving them with explicit directions as to how they were to be given.

(E. P.) I can remember how he left sugar pills for the rest of us but probably nothing so good-tasting for the sick one when he came to our house.

(M. M.) That was before the time of inoculations and capsules, though prescriptions were sometimes in order. I can recall with a pleasant remembrance of smell E. C. Powers' and later Sam Moore's drug-store where I sometimes went and was given a piece of rock-candy with a string in it, or a stick of colts-foot, and maybe, once in awhile, a drink of "sody-water" —not the ice-cream variety of this generation but a gently-flavored fizzy drink that later brought a violent reaction through the nose!

The doctor's visit was a welcome one in many homes and he was often treated to a bit of the cookery that might be going on. That these cookies or doughnuts or whatever were appreciated many recipes in my mother's cook-book will testify, titled as they still are as, "Mrs. Gerry's raised biscuits" or "Mrs. Peabody's gingerbread".

Medicine then was not specialized and the family doctor was not only physician and surgeon, but often entered into family life as an advisor or a healer of illnesses of the mind. Psychology was, I dare say, unheard of, but I am sure it was used, for many have told me that the doctor's presence in the sick-room always brought a feeling of comfort and well-being. There must be some truth in that statement for, compared with the facilities that a modern physician has at hand, those syrups and powders seem very inadequate.

I was not entirely occupied with my own family welfare, however; that of the Putnam family also concerned me. Fanny, the oldest of the ten children, was my particular playmate and with her I welcomed each new arrival with interest and excitement. In fact, when Elizabeth became librarian at Peabody Institute I remarked to my present family that I always knew I had not wheeled her out in her

carriage without a good reason! This is no secret for my husband took the earliest occasion to remind her of it.

(E. P.) The Library grounds where you wheeled me out are still the playgrounds for neighborhood children and dogs.

(M. M.) Mrs. Putnam was, next to my own mother, my ideal. Though always busy with the cares of her home and family another neighborhood child, or several, was never unwelcome, and all shared alike in the bread-and-molasses or cracker-and-butter in-between lunches. I can still taste in memory the wonderful salt pickles that we were sometimes allowed to pick from the crock in the cellar.

Their huge barn which stood between the house and the railroad track was a wonderful play place for games of hide-and-seek and run-sheep-run, and for stunts, so-called, one of which was to climb the side-wall and jump from the huge cross-beam above to the pile of hay underneath. Why some one was not hurt, or even worse, I cannot now understand; shivers run down my spine to think of it. It was a sad occasion when fire destroyed the barn and its contents. The new one never took its place, perhaps because we were outgrowing boisterous games and, as most children do, becoming club-minded. The Camp-fire and Girl Scout organizations had not then been formed so our little group worked under its own initiative. We must have been philanthropically inclined, inspired perhaps by that delightful little brochure issued by the M.S.P.C.A. called, "Our Dumb Animals", which had as its slogan, "Kindness to animals at all times rather than by the week". Our meeting place was the upper floor of our carriage-barn, a very pleasant place with windows on three sides and an air-tight stove for cool or rainy days and some discarded furniture. This club was limited to four members, each one holding office to eliminate any feeling of inferiority, and the ritual was very seriously adhered to. Members in turn wrote papers, one of which I recall as being upon the subject of "Flies and Their Usefulness"! Dues were as always an important part of each meeting, and when a sufficient sum was realized, large gilt badges were purchased, to be replaced later by silver stick-pins which we proudly wore. A visitor was not allowed to enter the club-room, so called, until he or she had signed the pledge at the door, which read, "I will be kind to animals". Upon special occasions we brought lunches and how good they tasted in that environment! I think, for the most part, we made a mid-day meal of them, not doing as I have known my own children to do—take lunches for a day in the woods arrive home in time for the family noon-repast.

The other members of this "society" besides Fanny Putnam, now Mrs. John Gibbs of Framingham, and myself, were Ethel Haynes, now Mrs. Gerry of Lynnfield, and Lucretia Massey Bailey. Dudley Massey, her father, built the house next to mine in 1892. The date is still on the rear roof, marked out in red slate. (Nathan Putnam, by the way, was the builder.) It was considered at that time to be the most elegant house in town and no doubt it was. The finest of material was used throughout, with many innovations such as a clothes chute and dumb-waiter, a basement laundry, and a butler's pantry. The huge plate-glass windows were a source of much comment, as was the porte-cochere and the carriage-block at the side door. Many of these features were for the pleasure of his aged mother, for Mr. Massey was a widower with two small girls, who, until the death of his wife, had lived at Hathorne (then known as Asylum Station) in the house that stood where the County Agricultural School is now located.

Perhaps one of their reasons for coming to this part of the town was to be near the Episcopal Church of which they were members. The stained glass window on the Holten Street side of that church is one that Mr. Massey gave in memory of his wife. He was an ardent Mason and spent many long evenings in writing a history of the local chapters, one that I believe is still in use, and he was much interested in Town affairs, serving for some time as Assessor.

While the house was still new the Masseys entertained the Governor (Greenhalge, I think it was) and what excitement that caused! Our fanciest dresses were brought out and everyone went to shake the Governor's hand and partake of the wonderful ices and spun-sugar, frozen-pudding, and fancy cakes. I presume coffee was served, not to speak of stronger libations, and there was an entertainment of singing and presumably a speech by the honored guest. It was the first time that some of us had heard a topical song as sung by Bert Bradstreet in his inimitable style. One person was present on that occasion who went down in history as having a particularly fine time. That was the guardian of our town's morals, Mike Mead. His requests for second or third helpings of this or that were commented upon with smiles for many years after.

Following the death of Mr. Massey the house became the property of Mr. James N. George who came there to live with his wife and charming daughters, Fanny and May, to be joined later by the Burns family. They were delightful neighbors and a devoted group.

Mr. and Mrs. William B. Sullivan and their growing family of three boys and two girls were the next occupants, and they added a much-needed touch of young life to a community that was then becoming a rather settled one. This property has changed hands several times since and has now been made into apartments, as have most of the large homes in town, including my own.

(E. P.) Changes are bound to come. It seems queer to think that 33 Holten St. isn't home for me any more. Until lately when Mrs. Aurelia Batchelder bought it Putnams have lived in it since it was built for Judge Putnam in 1805, although my own family came there after Grandfather, Otis Putnam, bought it from Judge Samuel Putnam's heirs when my father was two years old. By the time he was married his father was needing to move to Great-Grandfather Adrian Putnam's house on Elm Street, where Mr. Brooks now has his market and apartments, and Father took over the Holten Street house and, with Mother's able assistance, brought up a family of six boys and four girls. More and more, as Grandfather became interested in the farm on Summer Street just beyond St. John's College, which he had bought, Father managed the ice and wood business which Grandfather had developed from its beginning as the private ice-house of Judge Samuel Putnam. Three generations of the family worked at that business but the fourth decided that new inventions had spoiled it as a means of support for a growing family and turned to other fields. Although it was hard work and long hours there was endless amusement for the children of the family and the neighborhood in the barn with its horses and mows of hay, the sawmill, and, for a short time, the gristmill. What a mudhole Pond Street used to be in the spring at sawing time! No wonder they needed the great swing-wheels to haul the logs from the "flat" to the sawmill. Any other conveyance would have been in up to the hubs. In winter there was ice-cutting and snowplowing (for after a heavy storm all the horses fit for such work and all the men and boys available were out clearing the sidewalks and railroad tracks). That was before the days of autos and trucks. Now the streets are cleared by motor-plows and the sidewalks left uncleared except as the few pedestrians trample down the snow or energetic owners clear their walks with their own shovels and labor.

(M. M.) Across the street from the Massey house, on the corner of Charles, lived the Baker family, George and Elizabeth and their two sons William and Myron. George Baker's

mother and sister lived in a small house on the corner of Elm and Putnam Streets, where the Fossa duplex house now stands, and his shoe factory was next door on Putnam Street. Mr. Baker was lame and went to and from his work on a tricycle. The first one had small rubber tires but later he purchased a "pneumatic tire" one that to us was a beautiful affair. The noon-hour was always official when George Baker swung around the corner. He and his wife were more than neighbors to us for Lizzie came to live in our family as a young girl while my folks were still living in Tapleyville. They were married from our house and our interests were always mutual.

The house on the other corner of Charles Street, now occupied by the Christian Science Church Society, was then the home of Mrs. H. O. Putnam, known as Mrs. Minister Putnam to distinguish her from the others of that name. In earlier days her husband was pastor of the Universalist Church, hence her title. She came here from Brooklyn, N. Y. for the summer months, bringing with her her grandson James Heaton, a boy of about our age, outstanding because of his New York accent, his red hair, and huge freckles. I am afraid these peculiarities were the cause of much teasing, for as country children we felt ourselves rather superior, why, I do not know. James had a violent temper and an inclination to nose-bleeds, which, with his other assets, led him into many difficulties. He was a bit later than most children in acquiring the mode of speech and sometimes was slow to obey his grandmother. I can remember that the only way she could get him to come in to dinner was to get near enough to him to snatch his hat. (Everyone wore hats out-of-doors always). Then to retrieve the hat he would follow her into the house! James was merely slow in developing; he did better than most of us by graduating from Columbia University and becoming a lawyer and store-executive, having a brief but brilliant career.

Between Mrs. Minister Putnam's house and the George Putnam's was the home of Mr. and Mrs. Anson Bradstreet. They had no children so we were not particularly interested there, though Mrs. Bradstreet told me years later that I used to bother her very much by ringing her door-bell. Probably I did, though I have no recollection of it. The Gardiner Wheelwright family now live there.

On the other side of George Putnam's house were the ponds, the Big and Little Meadows, separated by the railroad track, and across the road between Holten and Sylvan Streets was

Putnam's Pond. The spring of the year always brings nostalgic memories of our hunt along their shores for the early bluets and violets and the first daring peep of a lonely frog that soon became a full chorus and the ensuing polliwog nests that we generally raided, taking home a few of the wriggling creatures in the hope that they might somehow grow legs for us. Then when the ponds were full and the dams overflowing, the dangerous leaps across the brimming sluice-way at the Little Meadow. This could only happen in the spring, for later the flash-boards were removed and the pretty blue ponds became a mere uninteresting flow of water.

The winter season also had its charms with sliding and skating at our very back doors, first on the Big and Little Meadows and later on the clear black ice that formed on the Mill Pond after harvesting was over and a few cold nights had made it safe. How I loved it, especially in the late afternoon when there was a setting sun and soon a rising star or two. I used to wonder if the time would ever come when I wouldn't or couldn't skate or coast, but alas it did, and all too soon.

Early spring was logging time, with the teams of sweating horses drawing low sledges laden with logs to the mill on Sylvan Street, where they were cut into fragrant boards which were then piled up to dry and weather. Grist-grinding was also done at this mill, those revolving stones being most fascinating because of their danger, but the ice-harvesting was the most interesting of all. This was a period of much anxiety from the day that the ice was judged to be of the proper thickness until the last cake had been floated under Sylvan Street, up the endless chain conveyer and into the sawdust-filled houses. All these operations, the ice-harvesting, the grinding, and log-cutting were done by water-power plus that of men and horses, and many were the long hours put in by the Putnams and their helpers. Weather entered into this also, a mild or rainy spell delaying the harvesting or making it impossible.

We seldom attempted bare-foot bathing because of the prevalence of blood-suckers and perhaps other unpleasant occupants of the water, but the Mill-Pond was, upon certain occasions, the scene of a true baptism by immersion which took place on a Sunday afternoon with many in attendance. Those who took part in the rite came in closed carriages and, clad in baptismal garments, were led into the water by the minister and were completely and thoroughly wetted. It was a true and whole-hearted demonstration of faith and one not to be thought of lightly or irreverently.



POND STREET, SHOWING PUTNAM'S POND AND MILL.
—*Courtesy Essex Institute*

(E. P.) Do you remember how crowded Pond Street was the Sunday Forrest Tiney was baptized? (For the benefit of any listeners-in who never knew Forrest Tiney we ought to explain him a bit. In spite of his name he was one of the biggest men in town—so large that a coffin had to be made to order for him when he died. On week-days he sold sandwiches to the High School students at recess—there was no lunch-room on the spot in those days—from a two-wheeled cart lined with a towel not too clean, but on Sundays he played the organ for the Gospel Mission. Whether the baptism was the result of the Mission services or the Mission services were enriched because of the baptism I do not know.) Pete Gregg was another interesting town “character” in our younger days. He prided himself so on being a member of the police force and was fond of pointing to his various badges to prove his authority. How the boys did love to get him to chase them when he was supposed to be pumping the organ at Calvary Church! Poor John Mason, the organist, never knew whether he was going to be able to finish a hymn after he began it. He was quite a figure, too, although in a different way, as he went back and forth with clock-like regularity between his home in Tapleyville and the Church.

(M. M.) Overlooking the pond, its spacious grounds bordering on Peabody Avenue and Pond Street, was the home of Mrs. Hannah Howe, her beautiful daughters Oda and Margaret and her son George. There was a close bond of friendship between the Howe family and mine, although most of my youthful association was with Alden White, at that time the only grandson, a delicate sweet little boy who died at an early age. The house with its long windows, recessed front, and balcony, its curving driveway, stone gate-posts and broad lawns, is very English in its atmosphere, though in my day it was often spoken of as the “mud-house”.

(E. P.) There was a reason for the English atmosphere. Mr. Silvester, grandfather of Harriet Tapley, who built the house in 1857, spent many years in England on business and evidently liked some things there well enough to adopt them here.

My father always used to tell about the carloads of trees that Mr. Silvester brought in and sold to the townspeople. Any left overs he planted on his own grounds. That is why Danvers is now noted for its lovely trees, probably.

(M. M.) The Howe family often made extensive trips and were on a European tour when the Peabody Institute burned

in 1890. I remember that excitement well and the danger that threatened the neighborhood, huge sparks and embers falling even upon our barn. It took some time in those days for the fire-apparatus to assemble, the signal being given by the ringing of church bells and those on the fire-stations. The horses and their drivers were often out on town road work which meant that the drivers, Ben Chase or Elden Swindell, had to make rapid changes. All this took time which, on this occasion, meant that the fire had gained so much headway that the building was a complete loss. The books that were usable were transferred to Essex Hall, which was in what many will remember as the D C A block on Elm Street only recently torn down and modernized. I was not then of library-book age so my first association with the delights of borrowed reading was not until the old building was replaced by the present one, Mrs. Emilie D. Patch issuing my first card. The advantages of library research and reference work came at a later date. I was pleased to note not so very long ago that this phase of education is still being used, the tactics being about the same!

Next to the Howes on Peabody Avenue, in the house that has entrances from both the Avenue and Holten Street, lived Mrs. Putnam and her daughter Bessie. Mrs. Putnam was generally known as "Mary Daniel" or "Mary Dan". Since there were no children of my age I visited there but little. Nor did I when it was later occupied by the Wallace Putnams and the Hustons, relatives of the original owners who fell heirs to it. It is now the Putnam Rest Home.

(E. P.) Granville Clapp and his family lived next to the Mary Daniel Putnam house. Miss Bessie Putnam, together with Oda Howe Nichols and Isabel Tapley, were leaders of the Junior Christian Endeavor Society of Maple Street Congregational Church, which Helen Clapp, Mildred Massey, Florence Derry, daughter of the box-manufacturer who lived on Charles Street, and I attended, and we had many happy times in the no-man's land between the two houses.

Allen and Earl Perkins lived next door, and Martha Porter across the street next to the Episcopal Church. She and the Aikens on Charles Street are now the only ones in the neighborhood still living in the homes of those early days.

(M. M.) At the corner of Cherry Street, opposite Calvary Church, in the house recently modernized by the Caligas, lived the Piper family where there were two girls of my own age whom we sometimes visited. Mr. Piper was associated with Henry Newhall in the hard-ware business.

(E. P.) I remember the Cliffords who lived there later and the big Russian wolf-hounds who made passing that house on the way to school a dreaded daily task. You may imagine I was glad when Rev. Mr. Ayres who served as pastor of the Methodist Church came there to live. I can see him now as, long after his retirement, enjoying the distinction of being the oldest man in town, he went about his business vigorous and active to the end.

(M. M.) Opposite the Clapps (now Cullens) on Holten Street were the Tapleys, Herbert and Mary. Mr. Tapley was in charge of the D.C.A. which in early days occupied a building on the site of the present Ideal Baby Shoe Company. I recall this as a long, low building in the rear of which was George Forrest's variety store. There we went to spend our pennies for candy and gum, rubber balls, hoops, masks, and what not.

(E. P.) I remember it later as "The Wheelman's Rest", with stalls for many bicycles outside. Those were the days when people, even you and I, worked for their pleasure!

(M. M.) My school days began at about the age of four when I attended Miss Sawyer's kindergarten at the Page House, going from there to the Park Street building. Those were the days of double desks and "seat-mates" and it was then that a friendship began which has been a life long one. Our paths have digressed for short intervals but our friendship has grown and blossomed throughout the years and has brought us mutual joy and comfort. I speak of Mary Hines Maple who, in our early days, lived with her parents on Cross Street, between Charles and Cherry, later moving to Danversport.

Our teachers at Park Street were Miss Emma Tapley, Miss Elizabeth Carr, now Mrs. Steele, and Miss Ada Lyford. It was of much moment when promotion cards assured us that we were advanced to the Maple Street School, for there we were to be with boys and girls so much larger and older than ourselves. I can remember as a little girl visiting that building with my father who was a member of the School Committee, and wondering what it would be like to sit in seats so large. It was with much pleasure that in September of last year I heard that one of my grammar school teachers was to celebrate her ninety first birthday. I refer to Miss Mercie Allen whom we all loved and respected.

High School was then beyond my comprehension but the time came when that also became a fact. My class, which cele-

brates its fiftieth reunion this year began its career in the then new Tapley School, the Town Hall being in a state of remodeling. How history repeats itself!

(E. P.) It will be queer to see the Town Hall without its towers again and the clock given by Augustus Peabody of the Burley farm! We'll still have the clock's bell hanging in state in the remodeled building, I understand.

I can remember how enthusiastic my older sister used to be about your sister Susan, who taught French, and Mary Herrick, the Latin and Greek teacher, and Sarah Richmond, for whom the new school was named.

(M. M.) The faculty consisted of the Principal, Mr. Powers, Miss Sarah Richmond, Miss Campbell, Miss Herrick, Miss Glover and Miss Eaton. My sister Susan Eaton, later Mrs. George Hale, became a member of the faculty a few months after her graduation from Wellesley College. One of her first assignments was the teaching of Civil Government to a class that met in the old Town Hall. Discipline was no small part of teaching in those days, and Mr. Powers, the Principal, must have had some doubts as to her ability to cope with lively boys and girls in that barn-like place, so several times a day he had errands in that part of the building—to check the temperature or open or close windows. This was of short duration, and many were the laughs they later had, for proper conduct in Miss Eaton's room was a foregone conclusion. I can speak personally as to this for she was my teacher in one subject or another during my four years in High School.

I have spoken of the Bakers on the corner of Charles Street. Next to them lived the Aikens; some of the family still have the home and carry on the business. Next to the Aikens were the Haynes.

(E. P.) Joe Haynes, the barber, and his large family of boys and girls! And we musn't forget Isaac Berry (in the house where George Ferguson now lives), who was tree-warden for many years, and as a labor of love kept the triangle formed by Charles, Pickering and Cross Streets immaculately groomed, at the expense of persecution by the boys who wanted to use it for a ball field; nor Thomas Mosher, a drummer-boy of the Civil War, who was shoe repair man for the district and lived in the house now owned by the Allens on Charles Street. Behind his house lived his daughter, Mrs. Chester Robinson, and her family, and later Ralph Putnam, the plumber, began his married life there.

(M. M.) Farther down on the same side of the street, in the

house now the property of the Clinton Lows, were Charlie and Isadora Kenney. Charlie, who worked in a Boston bank, was very fond of dressing in the latest mode; he was a nice singer and added much to the life of any social occasion. They were both active in the Universalist Church and "Isa" was a member of many of the town organizations, a president of the D W A, the Improvement Society, and of this Historical Society also. At that time whist parties were becoming popular and the Kenneys with others formed the Chelmstreet Whist Club, named for the streets on which the members lived—Charles for the Kenneys, Holten for the Eatons, Elm for the Masurys, Locust for the Juuls, Maple for the Masseys, and Sylvan for the Hoods.

With these names I will close, for I am sure they will bring other memories to you who have heard or read this paper.

(E. P.) Horse cars, electric cars, buses; arc lights which had to be serviced daily (How we used to gloat over our collection of the useless carbons) to the "white way" lights which make the fearsome dark Judge's Hollow no longer dreaded. Haven't we lived through a lot, and didn't we have fun doing it!

RECEIPT FOR LEGACIES

Danvers Decembe^r ye 25 1752

Rec^d of our Brother Ebenezer Hutchinson, Exec^{tr} to our Father Joseph Hutchinson^s Will Late of Danvers Des^t All the In-door Movables which our s^d Father gave to us in his Last will and Testament which is in part of the Legasie which our s^d Father gave to us in s^d will.

Rec ^d By us	Josiah Putnam
	Ruth Putnam
	his
	Benjamin x Buxton
	mark
	her
	Elizabeth x Buxton
	mark

—*Danvers Historical Society*

THE FIRST HUNDRED YEARS OF THE DANVERS SAVINGS BANK

BY CHARLES S. TAPLEY

For one hundred years the Danvers Savings Bank has been serving the people of this section. At this time, in accordance with custom, we turn our thoughts to 1850, the year of the founding of this bank.

The eighteen fifties were among the greatest eras of expansion that Danvers has ever seen. The shoe industry was at its height and its enterprising manufacturers were discovering new markets in the South.

In 1845 Joshua Silvester of Danvers had introduced into England the manufacture of pegged shoes. The carpet factory in Tapleyville was carrying on a large business, and from Danversport, bricks were being shipped all over the country and vessels arrived daily at the wharves.

The shoe business in Putnamville had made that section prosperous, and the center of Danvers was changing from a cross roads to a busy trading center. The population of Danvers in 1850 was 8000 as Peabody had not been set off as a separate town.

The Holten High School was established the same year as this bank and two years before, the first steam railroad passed through Danvers.

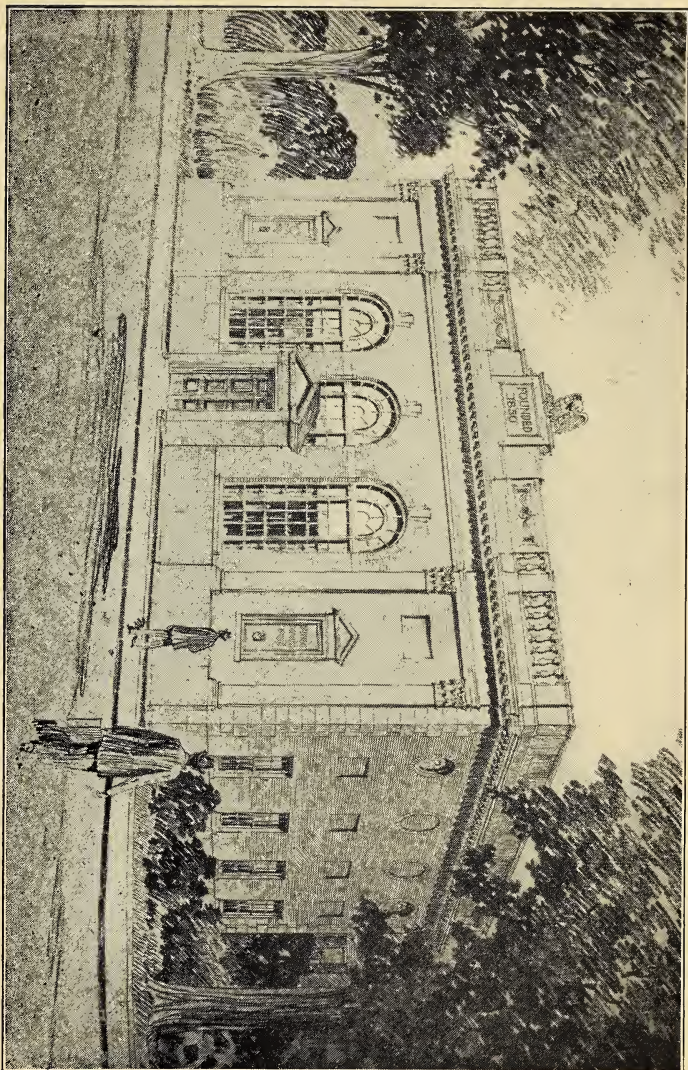
The period was also marked by an activity of mind and an interest in the great social, moral, and political questions of the day. Foremost among these issues was the question of slavery.

New England was never more vitally alert and alive emotionally, intellectually and politically than in 1850 and Danvers, sensitive to all that was astir, felt the heartbeats of New England, and of the nation as well.

The songs of Longfellow and Whittier filled the air, and Nathaniel Hawthorne frequently walked through Danvers Plains on his way to Folly Hill.

Danvers in 1850 was a community in which generosity of spirit and graces of culture were predominant, and where eagerness for truth pervaded the atmosphere.

Forty years before this, the first Savings Bank was established in Ruthwell, Scotland by Henry Duncan, a Scottish minister. Six years later, in 1816, the first two savings banks



DANVERS SAVINGS BANK

Original Building Erected in 1923, before Addition in 1950

—*Courtesy Danvers Savings Bank*—

were started in the United States—the Philadelphia Savings Fund Society and the Provident Institution for Savings in Boston.

It was one of the Scotch weavers at the Tapley Carpet Factory in Tapleyville who suggested the idea of a savings bank in Danvers to Gilbert Tapley. Mr. Tapley saw at once the obvious economic need of putting to effective use in the development of the community, the hard-won, hoarded coin and currency of the wage earner.

One hundred years ago, Mar. 20, 1850, on the petition of 51 signers, the State Legislature passed an act enabling the Danvers Savings Bank to come into being. The first meeting was held on Apr. 26, 1850, for the purpose of electing officers and trustees and a committee to draft By-laws. May 7, 1850, the Committee on By-laws met, recommended and adopted the by-laws of the Salem Savings Bank as a model to follow, but with minor changes.

This group of men representing Danvers, Topsfield, Middleton, Boxford, Beverly, Hamilton, Wenham and Essex, combining leadership, material means and moral support, joined in common effort for a worthy and significant purpose. They were pioneers in the vast and unexplored fields of banking. The few who had ventured in, had little experience by which they could profit. They had to fashion their own tools for the work they had to do, and with these tools they had to hew out their own material.

The Savings Bank first occupied rooms with the Village Bank, now the Danvers National Bank, in a building which stood on the corner of Elm and Maple Streets and William L. Weston, the Treasurer, was also Cashier of the Village Bank. The salary of the Treasurer was \$100 the first year and was increased to \$150 at the end of that time.

May 13, 1850, Samuel Preston became the first depositor and the book was made out in the name of the heirs of Levi Preston of North Danvers. At the end of six months there were 111 depositors.

In 1853, the Trustees considered the erection of a new building, but it was decided that the Village Bank should erect the building. In 1898 both the Village Bank and the Savings Bank removed from the second floor of the former bank's building to the quarters now occupied by the Danvers National Bank, this room being occupied jointly until 1904 when the General Court decreed Savings Banks must occupy separate quarters.

In 1923 it became evident that the Savings Bank required more room for its expanding business and with the lease with the National Bank about to expire, it was voted to construct its own building. The lot was purchased and the main building erected.

The past few years of steady growth forced further expansion, hence the recent addition, the interior of which is not yet quite finished, and which doubled the floor space of the bank.

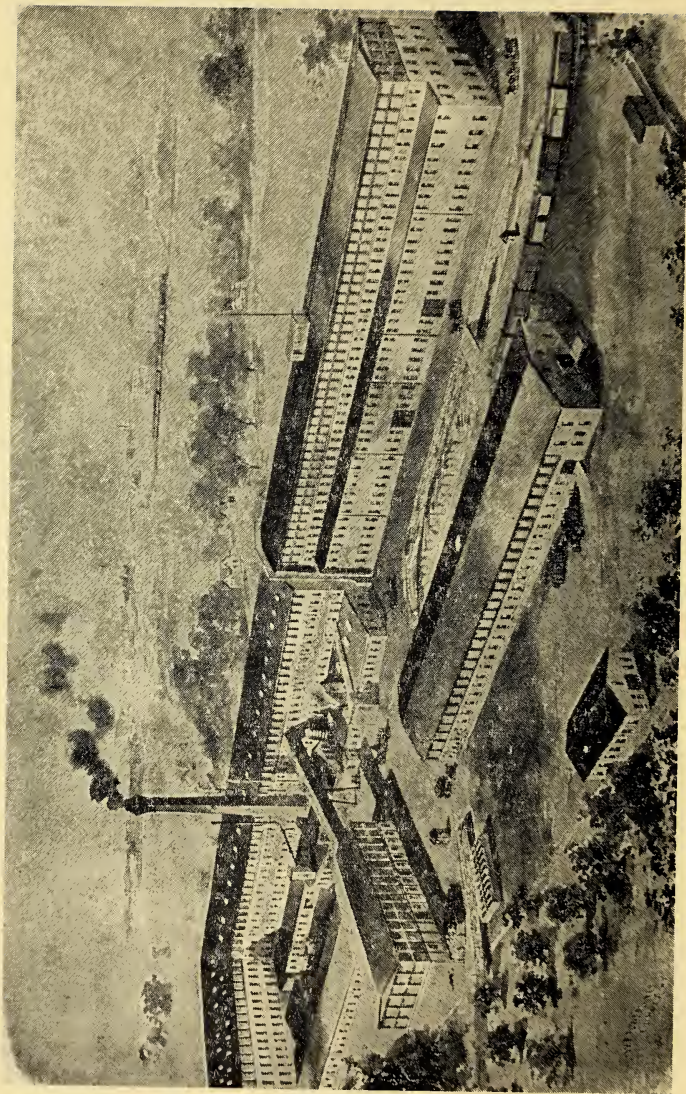
Gilbert Tapley was the first president and he carried on the duties in the systematic manner which characterized everything he did. He had also the gift of leadership that inspired confidence in others and got them to follow where he led. He carried himself with a vigor and unconscious dignity that gave the impression of bigness. No worthy movement, civic or charitable or religious, failed to arouse his interest or appealed to him in vain.

Col. Gilbert Tapley was one of the prime movers in obtaining railroad facilities for Danvers, not only by his personal influence but pecuniarily in constructing the railroad. He was the heaviest taxpayer in Danvers and one of the foremost citizens.

Successive presidents have been Rufus Putnam, Israel Herbert Putnam, Augustus Mudge, J. Frank Porter, Charles H. White, Charles H. Preston, Joshua Armitage, Charles N. Perley, Isaac D. Pope, Leland J. Ross, Arthur W. Beckford, and Herman C. Gordon, men of alert intelligence and cool judgment.

The consistent growth of the Bank has been due to the able management of loyal, zealous, and far sighted officers, and to its employees for their demonstrated loyalty and capacity.

The Danvers Savings Bank is indispensable to Danvers. Through it the town has become more effective in influence and greater in prestige than it could otherwise have hoped to be. It was in 1850 a strong, courageous and experienced administration determined to keep the Danvers Savings Bank well ahead and to bring a new period of prosperity and renown equal to any in its illustrious past.



BERNARD, FRIEDMAN & CO'S. FACTORIES
At corner of Ash and Purchase Street's, Danvers

BERNARD & FRIEDMAN'S DANVERS TANNERY

BY LEE M. FRIEDMAN

Read at Meeting of Society, April, 1950.

The story of Bernard, Friedman & Company's Danvers Tannery and its accomplishments is only a minor chapter in the history of American industrial enterprise. However, it was a link in the chain of development of Essex County as a progressive manufacturing center from its early colonial days. Although not long in years, the period of the company's tanning activity spanned the decade of which it has been well said that it "witnessed more progress in the art of leather manufacturing than any other decade in the history of the world".

Tanning is a very ancient art. It was known to the Egyptians at the time of the Pyramids. It was practiced by the Indians before the discovery of America. Indeed, it is said that the Indians made a buckskin leather which has never been surpassed for softness and pliability, or its ability to be waterproof. The very curious fact is that although so widely made use of over the world, the art of tanning made few advances over the centuries. As late as the eighteen-eighties, except for expediting the process, tanning had made little advance over ancient methods. Hides, after being dehaired by lime, were placed in plank boxes sunk in the ground filled with a vegetable liquor as the tanning agent and left for long periods to soak in the acid which was developed, to turn the skins into leather. Crushed bark of trees, oak, hemlock, and chestnut, and even sumac leaves and nut galls supplemented by chicken, pigeon or dog dung were the commonly used base for the vegetable liquor until at a somewhat more recent time quebracho wood from South America was found to be a substitute for the vanishing American forest trees no longer available near our eastern tanning districts.

In 1858 a German chemist published articles proposing chrome (i.e. chromium salts) as a substitute for these vegetable materials, to serve as the acid agency for tanning. But this laboratory discovery made no impression on the industry and produced no practical results. In 1884 Augustus Schultz, an American, patented a two bath method of chrome tanning. He called his chrome compound "Tanolin". It was not com-

pletely successful. In 1892-3 Martin Dennis discovered a further improvement by developing a one bath chrome compound, for which he secured a series of patents and began soliciting the trade to take out licenses. In 1897 Henry R. Proctor advanced the science by the reduction of chrome by means of glucose. In the meantime a new epoch was under way in American tanning. Every tanner was on his own trying to work out a chrome tannage according to his ideas. By 1890 Robert Foederer of Philadelphia used a chrome process so successfully in producing a Kid leather, which he called Vici Kid, made of East Indian Kid skins, that it gave a new urgency to experimentation with chrome as a new tanning element.

It was being discovered that chrome tanning was simple, cheap and quick. The leather produced proved tough and yet pliable, did not absorb water as bark tanned leather did and was easily dyed and held almost any shade of color.

Albert Bernard as a young man had succeeded his father as owner of the old firm of B. Bernard & Co. of Boston. For many years the company was engaged in importing French leathers of which "French Kid" tanned from East Indian skins dominated the American market, the light weights were used for women's wear and the heavier for men's. French and German patent leather shared a monopoly in the United States in both men's and women's dress shoes. As Foederer's chrome tanned Vici Kid and the product of other early chrome tanning came into the market challenging imported leathers keener and keener competition began to develop. Bernard began experimenting with chrome tanning by having skins tanned for him by contract tanners who were willing to take a chance with the new stuff that everybody in the trade was watching. Finally this brought him in contact with Henry W. Creese.

Henry W. Creese, son of a tanning family, was an Englishman who had come to this country in 1872 after having served an apprenticeship and been well trained as a tanner. He went to Lowell where he was employed in the White Brothers' tannery. White Brothers was one of the earliest American tanners to experiment with chrome tanning. I believe they were the pioneers to chrome tan calfskins for men's shoes in this country. They succeeded in putting on the market a colored chrome leather—yellow—which under the name of Box Calf made considerable headway. Creese continued with White Brothers for seventeen years and had risen to the

position of superintendent of their tannery. Owing to differences arising between him and his employers Creese threw up his job in 1889.

Bernard hired Creese to demonstrate what he could do with chrome tanning. The result was sufficiently interesting to lead them to look for a location so they might undertake a more permanent arrangement.

Why should they have turned to Essex County in the search for a tannery and how did they come finally to locate in Danvers? The answer requires a glance back at the interesting history of the beginning of the shoe and leather industry in America.

Shoemaking began in the United States in 1629, when Thomas Beard and Isack Rickman, two shoemakers, were induced to come from England to Plymouth. Beard brought with him "divers hydes, both for soles and upp leathers, w^{ch} hee intends to make upp in bootes and shoes there in the country". They were to receive their "dyett & lodging" and pay at the rate of "10£ p. ann."

In the early days of the self-sufficient farm, the farmer slaughtered the cattle he raised, crudely tanned the hides and fashioned the leather into rough home-made shoes for his family. It was only slowly, as isolated farming neighborhoods grew into communities, that a worker who had gained proficiency in some particular work could set up shop, specializing in some particular trade such as baker, tailor, shoemaker, miller, weaver, etc. So in the early records we generally do not find references to trades but rather regulations of commodities. Thus the earliest reference to tanning in our Massachusetts records is a memorandum of the General Court of September 6, 1638, "To remember to barke the second month for the Tanning of diverse hides to come", followed two years later (October 7, 1640) by an order that hides and skins of animals should be preserved and dried, tanned, and dressed.

July 25, 1639 Richard Hutchinson was granted 4 poles of land for tan pits "to dresse goates skines and hides" on a site on Beaver brook near Whipple's bridge on Maple Street in that part of Salem which is now Danvers. So you can see that tanning, even if amateurish, has an early local start. Actually, however, before that Francis Ingalls, a trained tanner, had come to Lynn in 1629 and built in Swampscott the first tannery, in New England. It was on Humfreys brook where it is crossed by a stone bridge in Burrill Street. So important a

place did the manufacture of leather soon win in the domestic economy of the Massachusetts Bay Colony that its Great and General Court decided that it was so necessary to set up leather standards. So in 1642 it passed what I believe to be the first American Act regulating the manufacture of leather when it provided:

"No Butcher, Currier, or shooe-maker shall exercise the trade of a tanner, on the forfeiture of 6s 8d. for every skin he shall tann, while they use any of the trades aforesaid, nor shall any tanner use the trades of Butcher, currier, or shooe-maker under like penalty."

That the government meant to enforce proper quality standards in the leather produced by tanners is shown by the fact that at the Salem Quarterly Court in January 1641 Thomas Eaborne was admonished for insufficient tanning and in the same court in 1672 Ezekil Needham was prosecuted for using the trade of a tanner and shoemaker contrary to law.

Shoemaking which had been carried on in Essex County in a more or less desultory fashion received a great impetus in 1750, when John Dagyr, a skillful Welsh shoemaker, came to Lynn and improved local shoemaking. Soon Lynn shoes began to get a reputation as such good merchandise that in 1764 it was boasted in the BOSTON GAZETTE (Oct. 21) "It is certain that women's shoes made at Lynn do now exceed those usually imported in strength and beauty but not in price." By 1768 Lynn turned out 80,000 pairs of shoes a year.

In those days Boston and Salem were two of the greatest and most important shipping ports of the nation. So Essex County, favorably situated to both, had every market, domestic and foreign, open for its products. Thus its enterprising merchants were able to make Essex County the early shoe and leather center of the nation.

When Danvers separated from Salem in 1752 it already tanned leather and was so busy manufacturing shoes that it was known as a "shoe town". When Joshua Silvester, the leading citizen of Danvers, went abroad in 1846 to promote the European sale of American shoes and leather from Essex County, he represented twenty-six firms of tanners located in Danvers and Salem.

In 1889, therefore, Danvers with its past record and available experienced tanning workers was a "natural" for any ambitious young outfit proposing to set up a tannery.

At first Bernard hired space in the Crowninshield factory in Peabody (now part of the A. C. Lawrence plant) and set up a

tannery. After a year Bernard was confident that they were on the right track and planned to have a real tannery. The enterprising Danvers Building Association offered to erect and rent him a building. In the Tapleyville district there was an ideal location for a tannery at the corner of Ash and Purchase Streets. The lot was so situated that they could, according to practices then commonly employed, drain its waste inexpensively directly into tidal water. Above all, in addition, on that lot was a spring of clear water with just those qualities which made it ideal for tanning and in such unlimited quantities as to ensure avoiding big water bills which so often proved a real burden to tanners.

Thus, by 1890 B. Bernard & Co. was in the market with a line of chrome tanned calfskin leather produced in their Danvers' tannery under Creese's superintendency. They had a lot to learn about the new process. There was no one and nowhere to turn for advice or assistance in the use of chrome tannage. Every tanner pioneering with the process tried to keep secret anything he discovered which produced satisfactory results. Each batch of skins and hides presented individual difficulties and problems which had to be solved by trial and error as knowledge was gained from their own experiments and experiences. It was a constant struggle. Sometimes it seemed as if they had mastered the secret of a successful process and had a working formula only to be met with unexpected and inexplicable disappointments. Still they plugged along making progress and getting better and better and producing a leather which shoe manufacturers were willing to try out in attempting to catch up with the demand for "colored shoes" and water resisting blacks which the new tanning was creating in the shoe market. It had taken them, however, longer than they had expected. In 1892, just as they had succeeded in perfecting their tannage and were beginning to turn out a good product, the panic of '92 brought them to a crisis. Bernard had used up his resources. He lacked credit and it looked as if they were at the end of their rope.

It was then that Bernard turned to my father, Max Friedman. Max Friedman was born in 1840 in the little farming village of Reckendorf in southern Bavaria. At the age of ten he came to America to join his elder brothers, Solomon and Jacob, in Philadelphia. After three or four years of schooling, in 1854, at the age of fourteen he and his two brothers, none of whom were yet twenty-one, started out in the wholesale shoe business as Friedman Brothers. At the beginning of the Civil

War, to keep in closer touch with its customers, most of whom were in the South, the firm moved to Memphis, Tennessee. Later they had moved to Boston, continuing Memphis as their southern branch, and developed into the largest wholesale boot and shoe business in the country. As headquarters it occupied the entire pink and white building still standing at the corner of Bedford and Lincoln Streets, Boston, then widely known as the Friedman Building. Its southern branch was later moved to St. Louis, where the business still exists under its later name of Friedman-Shelby Shoe Company, as one of the constituent concerns making up the International Shoe Company. My father had withdrawn from the firm in 1889 to go into shoe manufacturing and the firm of Jennings, Friedman & Stevens was formed to manufacture ladies' shoes and slippers at Epping, New Hampshire, and Haverhill. The venture had not been successful and he had withdrawn some few months before his negotiations with Bernard.

From the beginning the combination under the firm name of Bernard & Friedman proved a great success. Albert Bernard proved himself, as opportunities offered, an outstanding salesman, popular and with a wide personal acquaintance with the trade. He was a skillful judge of leather and a demanding and hustling force to keep the tannery output up to the highest standards. Max Friedman was an experienced business executive who enjoyed the confidence of the New England bankers, which enabled the firm, although at first it still had but a limited capital, to obtain ample loans to finance a constantly growing business. Creese was proving himself a tanning genius. It seemed as if every day he became more and more expert and that every batch of leather he turned out was better than all predecessors.

Later Albert Bernard's brother George was admitted to the firm and the business was divided into two firms,—Bernard & Friedman to buy the skins and hides and to sell the finished leather, Bernard, Friedman & Co., in which Creese was a partner, to run the tannery and manufacture, for Bernard & Friedman, the leather at a fixed price which would yield an assured profit for the tannery.

They went from success to success, specializing in chrome tanned calf. The leather they turned out was the best of its kind then being produced in the country and they constantly kept improving its tannage until it was only a question of keeping pace with demand. The reputation of Bernard & Friedman's leather gained such prestige that they were able

to get from two to three cents a foot more for their leather than competitors. It was an alive and aggressive field in which they won leadership for there were first class competitors. Among the foremost were White Brothers, A. F. Gallun & Sons Co., Pfister, Vogel Leather Co., D. B. Eisendrath & Co., Carl E. Schmidt & Co., Barnet Leather Co., Walker, Oakley & Co., Albert Trostel & Sons Co. Towards 1894 in connection with the Woodside Japanning Company, their subsidiary, they produced the first successful patent calf made in the United States and with the aid of a tariff protection which they, in connection with New Jersey interests obtained in the McKinley Tariff bill, they succeeded in supplanting the line of patent leather which had been almost wholly imported from Germany and France. They pioneered in producing pig skin leather which, while now a staple, was then a novelty in popular demand for sporting shoes. Creese's skill in the use of dyes as an adjunct of chrome tanning helped bring a range of colors into finished leather, which introduced new elements of fashion into American footwear and broadened the leather market into other fields where it had never before been used. In its heyday Bernard & Friedman had built up an extensive export business with England, Germany, France, Australia, New Zealand, Mexico, and the Argentine.

There was one important trade reform furthered by Bernard & Friedman. Hand measuring of the footage of every skin of leather had ever had an element of uncertainty and was constantly a subject of controversy between tanner and shoe manufacturer. No two measurers ever came out alike. When the tanner took the breaks the manufacturer was sure he was being cheated. Bernard & Friedman began using the mechanical measuring machines which were being introduced and with the aid of the official governmental leather measurers worked out improvements so that they plainly marked its footage on every skin and guaranteed its correctness. It did not take long for the evils of overmeasurements by tanners or undermeasurements by shoe manufacturers, and the attendant claims, to become largely a thing of the past.

A list of their customers from one end of the country to the other reads like the social register of the shoe trade of the day. Hannan Brothers, Johnson & Murphy, A. E. Nettleton, James A. Banister, Laird Schober & Co., Frank Brothers, Howard & Foster, Slater & Morrill, Strong & Garfield, George E. Keith Co., Wm. L. Douglas, W. H. McElwain, Henry B. Endicott & Co. (later Endicott, Johnson Co.), Commonwealth Shoe Co.,

Stacey, Adams & Co., L. A. Crossett Co., A. E. Little Co., Rice & Hutchins, Thomas Plant & Co., Gale Shoe Co., M. A. Packard & Co., Torrey, Curtis & Tirrell, T. D. Barry & Co., A. J. Bates Co., S. A. Forbush Shoe Co., Faunce & Spinney, Nesmith Shoe Co., Florsheim Shoe Company, Chicago; Buckingham & Hecht, San Francisco; Krohn Fecheimer, Cincinnati; Churchill & Alden, Walker & Whitman, Geo. Snow Shoe Co. (Brockton), E. H. Clapp & Co., E. T. Wright & Co., J. E. French Co., Emerson Shoe Co., Preston B. Keith & Co., E. H. Stetson (later Stetson Shoe Co.), French, Shriner & Urner, and Regal Shoe Co., to mention a few from recollection.

At the time of the Spanish War, without solicitation the United States Government in contracting for shoes for the army and navy required that the leather should be Bernard & Friedman's or a leather of equal standard and quality,—and who wanted to take the risk of convincing officials that the substitute equalled Bernard & Friedman's?

At first Bernard & Friedman was located at 50 High Street, Boston, but after a year moved to 10 High Street, the very center of Boston's leather district, occupying the whole of the structure which has now been replaced by the present Rice Office Building. In those days it was the custom of the shoe trade to come into Boston leather market twice a week, Wednesdays and Saturdays. On Wednesdays the factory superintendents and leather buyers came, but on Saturdays it was usually the heads of the concerns themselves who came around to visit the market. I remember when, as a college student, I sometimes visited my father on a Saturday and in his store you met the aristocracy of the shoe trade, the great and successful. John Hannan from New York, James Banister from Newark, both were almost weekly visitors. Sometimes Mr. Florsheim from Chicago, or Governor Pingree from his Detroit factory visited. Governor Douglas and Herbert Drake, Elwin T. Wright and his rising assistant, Alfred W. Donovan, L. E. Crossett, Moses N. Arnold, Henry B. Endicott, Charles H. Jones, John S. Kent and Elmer J. Bliss dropped in as a matter of course.

At that time the Douglas men's shoe was the only advertised shoe. Elmer J. Bliss was entering the retail field with his Regal Shoes, and when Bernard & Friedman developed patent calf he seized hold of the opportunity to launch himself brilliantly and successfully with a famous advertisement of men's shoes "Three of a Kind—\$3 each"—buy all three! He offered a black or color calf, or a patent leather shoe made of

"King Calf" warranted. "King Calf" was his trade name for Bernard & Friedman leather, which at that time he was exclusively using.

Then A. E. Little started advertising a woman's shoe called "Sorosis" while Plant started a "Queen Quality" shoe in the same field, both to meet immediate success. While they both largely used kid leather their calf shoes were based on Bernard & Friedman's product.

For a time Bernard & Friedman used the trade mark "Titan" but they found that their own name was so much better known to the trade that the retail trade preferred to tell customers that they were getting Bernard & Friedman leather rather than use the name Titan.

In 1899 Bernard & Friedman sold out on a cash basis for what was for that day a huge fortune of over \$1,000,000 above all liabilities to J. & W. Seligman & Co. of New York, who were financing the well known promoter of that day, Charles R. Flint, in forming the American Hide & Leather Company. The firm went out of existence as by the terms of the sale the partners agreed not to engage in a competing business for ten years. The business was then merged with others into the American Hide & Leather Company. It was not long after that that the Danvers tannery was closed and later the building was torn down. Today even the memory of its glory is forgotten as its site is devoted to other uses.

Only the other day I was turning the pages of a book, at the Harvard Business School Library, entitled "The Manufacture of Leather" by Charles T. Davis, published in 1897, and preserved there, pasted on its pages, are samples of the triumphs of tanning leather achieved by the master tanners of their day, and there staring me in the face, on page 564, was a piece of Bernard & Friedman chrome tanned leather entitled "No. 1. Sample of Bernard & Friedman Russia Calf—Combination tannage—Brown color". That is, perhaps, today the only still existing physical relic of Bernard & Friedman.

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RELEASE FROM DUTY IN MILITIA

Danvers 6th May 1799

This may certify that Mr. Elisha Nichols of Middleton, a Private Soldier in Cap^{tn} Wilkins Company of Millitia some years since broke his Leg in consequence thereof, that Leg is shorter than the other and has a calleus of the Joint which renders in walking imperfect & causes him to be lame. I am clearly of oppinion he ought to be excused from doing duty in the Millitia so long as he may remain in such a lame state.

Arch^s Putnam
Surⁿ to Col Putnam's Reg^t

Capt. Wilkins

—*Danvers Historical Society*



PUTNAM-SWAN HOUSE AND BARN, PRESTON AND MAPLE STREETS

Copied from Picture at Essex Institute, Taken about 1880

Buildings torn down by order of Trustees of Essex Agricultural School

—*Courtesy Miss Elizabeth W. Putnam*

THE PAPERS OF SYLVANUS B. SWAN

BY RUTH HOWARD ALLEN

Many young men came down from New Hampshire farms to find work in Danvers a hundred years or more ago. They were sturdy, willing workers and readily found employment on the numerous farms in town. They became highly respected citizens, prominent in church affairs and many held public office. A good many of these young men found their way to the Centre, now Danvers Highlands, and some turned to the shoe industry which was flourishing in that locality at that time. In many instances, they married daughters of men for whom they worked or girls in the neighborhood.

These facts are true of Sylvanus B. Swan. It was my intention to write a short story of his life based on his notes, old record and account books, letters and other data in possession of the Historical Society. But my curiosity led me to seek more information on these various subjects and I have been able to gather a great deal of interest to add to this tale. It is not so much about Mr. Swan himself, as that of his first wife and her family. She was Mary Ann, daughter of Eleazer and Sarah (Holton) Putnam.

From his own records, some of which were meager, I sought to learn more about his first job when he came to Danvers, about the School Dist. No. 4 which he served, his work as surveyor of highways in his Dist. No. 10, the offices he held in the First Church, his own farming business, the Putnam cemetery, his influence in the extension of the railroad to Lawrence and many other things. He was an outstanding farmer and citizen of the town.

Sylvanus B. Swan came to that part of Danvers now known as Hathorne. The exact time that he came is not known but the first date we have of his being here was from a letter written to him in July 1835. He was at that time manager of the farm of Capt. Stephen Wilkins which was formerly part of the Daniel Rea grant on what is now known as Hospital Hill.¹ It is now part of the grounds of the Danvers State Hospital. This farm was owned by members of the Rea family for some years. It passed through various owners until it was purchased by Jonathan Ingersoll in 1811.² After several transfers, John Andrew of Salem became the owner. Follow-

¹ See Vol. XI, p. 40, D.H.C.

² Essex So. Reg. of Deeds, Bk. 194, leaf 193.

ing his death, Leverett Saltonstall, as administrator of Mr. Andrew's estate, sold the farm at auction to Capt. Wilkins, the highest bidder, Oct. 31, 1829.³ The price was \$5400, a sizable sum for a farm in those days. When Mr. Andrew bought the farm, the deed stated it contained 95 acres⁴.

Capt. Wilkins owned this farm for less than seven years. It was during this period that Mr. Swan came to take charge of it for him. Capt. Wilkins was absent most of the time, being engaged in the East India trade from Salem. It was while on one of his voyages he wrote the following letter to Mr. Swan:

Mr. S. B. Swan,

Sumatra, July 19, 1835

Dear Sir,

I improve this opportunity to inform you of my arrival here on the 10th of May where I have been detained ever since on account of the high prices of Pepper; I found vessels loading here that were paying more for Pepper than my cargo for last voyage sold for in Europe; I therefore concluded to lay by until they were all loaded; as I perceived it was ruinous business to take Pepper on the terms that they were loading and by so doing my prospects at the present time are good, but it prevents me from returning home this year, which I suppose will be a source of regret to you and I wish you to consider my circumstances, could not return home from here without making a great loss, and my voyage will be bad enough at the best, although I shall not lose anything more than my time, I have not much doubt that what I shall come home with a whole skin. I have never seen the Sumatra business so dull as this year, you of course will continue on the Farm and carry it on in such a manner as you may think best for my interest. I shall be at home next April or May, take good care of my family and Mrs. Tyler, give my respects to her and tell her that I feel under great obligations to her for her attention to my family since my departure, also for her being instrumental in my obtaining so good a Farmer.

My Brother, Charles, will explain everything to you.

I remain with the highest esteem

Yours, etc.

Stephen Wilkins

Mr. S. B. Swan, Danvers, Massachusetts, U.S.A.
per Ship Francis, Capt. C. Wilkins."

³ Essex So. Reg. of Deeds, Bk. 255, leaf 18.

⁴ Essex So. Reg. of Deeds, Bk. 242, leaf 88.

It will be noted that Capt. Wilkins did not intend to return until April or May 1836. He must have arrived earlier than he expected for on April 2, 1836, he sold the farm to John Dexter of Essex for \$6775.⁵ It might be presumed that Capt. Wilkins sold the farm for either of two reasons. His voyage may have been unprofitable and he felt he could not afford the expense of carrying it on, thus throwing Mr. Swan out of work. Or Mr. Swan may have left his employ to take over the farm of Eleazer Putnam who undoubtedly was in feeble health and needed some one to take charge for him. Mr. Putnam died May 30, 1836 and about six months later his daughter, Mary Ann Tyler married Sylvanus Swan.

Capt. Wilkins bought a farm in Middleton in 1838 but soon sold it to Jonathan Berry Perkins. In 1840 he returned to live near his former farm in Danvers. His new home was on what is now Maple Street, owned and occupied for many years by the late George Warren Towne and his wife, Abbie (Peterson). It stands nearly opposite the Gen. Israel Putnam homestead at the corner of the Newburyport Turnpike. This house, like many of those in the vicinity, was built in the early part of the 19th century by a Putnam. Daniel F. Putnam erected it on what was part of the original Putnam property, about 1832, at the time of his marriage to Susan Herrick. He was associated with his brother Ahira in the shoe business but died at an early age in 1839.

Soon after his death, Daniel F. Putnam's heirs sold the premises to Capt. Wilkins, June 19, 1840.⁶ He paid \$1750 for it with one half acre of land. Later Daniel Putnam, father of Daniel F., sold an acre and 40 poles of land to Capt. Wilkins. Here the latter spent the remaining years of his life. He had no children. After his death, his heirs sold it to John D. Philbrick, whose wife was Julia Ann Putnam, sister of the builder of the house, for \$2600.⁷

Capt. Wilkins married Catherine Merriam of Middleton, a sister of Elizabeth, wife of Col. Jesse Putnam, who lived in the gambrel-roofed house a short distance away. This Mrs. Putnam lived to be over 100 years old. After Capt. Wilkins' death, his household effects were sold at auction and there is known to be two articles of furniture in homes in Danvers that were purchased at that time. Mr. Albert F. Learoyd has

⁵ Essex So. Reg. of Deeds, Bk. 290, leaf 50.

⁶ Essex So. Reg. of Deeds, Bk. 320, leaf 253.

⁷ Essex So. Reg. of Deeds, Bk. 344, leaf 76.

a sideboard and Miss Nettie Pratt, a table, both of similar and unusual design which may have been brought home from the Far East by Capt. Wilkins. In a recent letter to me, Miss Elizabeth W. Putnam of New York asks, "Have you ever heard of Frances Chantrey, the little Malabar girl, whom Capt. Wilkins brought home?" I never have. I hope to learn more about her later.

The farm to which Sylvanus Swan went in 1836, was at the corner of the present Maple and Preston Streets. The site is now part of the grounds of the Essex County Agricultural School. It might be of interest to tell something about Eleazer Putnam who then owned the farm, and especially about his daughter Mary Ann who became the wife of Sylvanus Swan, before continuing the story of Mr. Swan himself.

Eleazer Putnam was the son of Samuel, born Dec. 7, 1758. He married Sarah Fuller of Middleton, Dec. 30, 1783. Of their six children, five grew to maturity. Their first child, Sally, was born Dec. 13, 1784 and died unmarried in 1811. The oldest son, Israel Warburton Putnam, became a minister. Articles about him have been written by his great granddaughter, Miss Elizabeth W. Putnam and printed in the Historical Collections. I am indebted to her for much of the information about these Putnam children, especially Mary Ann.

Betsey F. Putnam, the next child of Eleazer Putnam, never married and was afflicted with deafness for some years before her death. She lived at home in her early life and took care of Mary Ann, after the latter's mother died. The last years of Betsey's life were spent with her brother Israel at his home in Middleborough. Another son, Dr. Archelaus Fuller Putnam, was the first native of Danvers to receive a medical education in college.⁸ The last son, Samuel, lived in Brooklyn, N. Y.

Sarah (Fuller) Putnam died Dec. 21, 1802. With five children, the eldest 18 years of age, to care for, Mr. Putnam married a second time in less than a year after the death of the first Mrs. Putnam. She was Sarah (Holton) Webster whom he married Sept. 18, 1803. She was the daughter of Judge Samuel Holton and widow of Lake (or Luke) Webster. She was born Aug. 12, 1763 and married Luke (Lake int.) Webster, of Newburyport, Aug. 30, 1781. He was born in Salisbury, Aug. 27, 1755, the son of Rev. Samuel and Elizabeth Webster, and according to the vital records, died at sea, July 2, 1800.

⁸ Danvers Hist. Coll. Vol. VI, p. 71.

The petition for probate of his estate, calls Lake Webster a goldsmith. The widow asked the Judge to appoint her brother-in-law, Col. Jethro Putnam, as administrator. The inventory shows the only assets of the estate were "wages due to said deceased as a mariner on board the United States ship called the Warren, £37.8." The Websters had two children, Samuel Holton Webster who died Sept. 28, 1812 and Sally, who became the wife of Dr. George Osgood and died Sept. 17, 1821. They were about the age of the oldest Putnam children.

Eleazer Putnam and Sarah (Holton) Webster were married by her father, Hon. Samuel Holton. Of this union, a daughter, Mary Ann was born Aug. 5, 1805, later to become Mrs. Sylvanus B. Swan. Her mother died Jan. 19, 1808, after a lingering illness, leaving Mr. Putnam again a widower with a baby girl less than three years old. The oldest daughter, Sally, and Betsey, took over the care of the house for their father and that of their young half sister. Sally passed away in 1811 and four years later, Eleazer Putnam and Doreas Foster of Boxford were married, Nov. 10, 1815.

Mary Ann Putnam was married to John Tyler of West Boxford, Dec. 24, 1823, when she was but 18 years of age. He was the son of John and Mercy (Adams) Tyler, born Feb. 24, 1795. The story of her early life will be told in the following pages, written by Miss Elizabeth Whitney Putnam of Brooklyn, N. Y. and gathered from letters and notebooks in possession of her family. I have before me photostat copies of some of the letters written by Mary Ann. The handwriting of this 12-year old girl is remarkable with excellent spelling and grammar.

MARY ANN PUTNAM

Mary Ann Putnam was born August 5, 1805 when her parents, Eleazer Putnam and Sarah Holden, were 46 and almost 42. Eleazer Putnam and Sarah were married on September 18, 1803 by her father, Hon. Samuel Holton. Each had children by a former marriage. The Putnam brothers & sisters were (1805): Sally 20, Israel 18, Betsy 16, Fuller 12, and Samuel 11. The Webster children were: Samuel Holton and Sally, both probably a little older than the Putnams as their mother had married Luke Webster on August 30, 1781. Samuel is spoken of as a Captain in a letter of 1808 and Sally was Dr. George Osgood's first wife.

Some of the Putnam children were ready to leave home by

the time Mary Ann was born. Sally Putnam was teaching school that summer in Hillsboro, N. H., where some of her mother's people, the Fullers and Symonds, lived. In August of that year Israel Putnam went to the Exhibition at Cambridge with Capt. Page's son and in September he entered Harvard College as a student. Betsy Putnam seems to have taken little Mary Ann under her wing at an early age and never ceased to give her such aid and comfort as she was able. Mary Ann was to need it.

On the 19th of February in 1808 Mary Ann's mother died after a somewhat prolonged sickness. She was very dear to all the Putnam children: Israel sending inquiring letters from college, Sally Putnam collapsing from grief into a sick bed, and Betsy writing to her friend, Harriot Osgood, "All now I have to cherish is the dear remembrance of the best of mothers. Little Mary Ann (now 29 months old) is my constant companion let me be where I will. She is great deal of company for me, but her innocent questions, 'where Mama is' and 'what she died for' and 'when she will come home again' distress me more than my own meloncaly reflections."

In the letters written by the Putnams in the following years touching on the course of Israel's studies, or of Sally's & Betsy's school teaching, on Sally's death or Eleazer Putnam's marriage to Dorcas Foster in 1815, there is an occasional reference to Mary Ann. As Sally Putnam was writing a letter on May 5, 1808, Mary Ann came and asked her if she were writing to "Brother Inner". She had a cake in her hand which she wanted to send "Inner", or Israel, who was now at Dartmouth College. On June 29, Sally, Samuel and Mary Ann took tea at Dr. Osgood's while Betsy entertained Capt. Webster at the Putnam house.

Election day was usually a time for visiting. On May 31, 1809 Sally reports that "Betsy & myself with Mary Ann excepted an invitation which Grandpapa (Holton) gave us to visit at his house. We were very cordially and affectionately received and had the happyness to meet Dr. Tuffs and his Laidy who were very social and friendly."

Mary Ann was not always well, although she was blessed with a good constitution which showed in "her healthy countenance". An inflammation of the eyes troubled her in 1811 and "the teethache" in 1812. "The Doct. and I have been contending for her this summer", writes Betsy on June 5 to Harriot Osgood, who is teaching in Westfield. "The Doct.

wishes her to go to their school. Father was so much prejudiced in favor of the school mistress at the plains that he was on the Doct. side. But Mary decided in my favor." On July 24, Betsy adds happily, "Mary Ann is well, goes to school, learns to read a little. I am happy that she remembers you. She is quite a companion for me."

Eleazer Putnam summarizes the events of these childhood days when he writes in 1817, "Some allowance for (Mary Ann's) lack of industry must be made. She has moved about so often. She is at times at her aunt Putnam's (Mary Holton, wife of Col. Jethro), then at Dr. Osgood's, then at home, & some at Middleton (possibly with the Putnam's relatives: grandma Fuller or aunt Wilkins) & so often shifting about on visits that she never seems to have time to knit or sew." When at Beverly for 2 months, with Mrs. Prince, she had her first training in habits of industry. This letter was written to Harriot Osgood, after her marriage to Israel Putnam, then the pastor of North Church at Portsmouth. For some years this sister-in-law was to be of great importance in Mary Ann's life.

Perhaps it was the death of grandpa Holton on Jan. 2, 1816 that brought a change in arrangements for Mary Ann's summers, perhaps it was due to the fact that Betsy Putnam usually conducted a school in the summer at Gloucester. But beginning with the year 1816 she spent each summer with "brother & sister" and their growing family until she was fifteen and possibly until she was eighteen. She would usually go to Portsmouth in April and return home late in October, dividing her time while there between school and helping her aunt. But more than this training, Eleazer Putnam valued for his daughter "the many advantages of a religious nature" to be found in the parsonage.

The schooling at Portsmouth open to Mary Ann was to be found at Mrs. Hart's or at Isabel Eustis'. The lowest price for the former "is six dollars for plain sewing. With addition of embroidery, seven—painting, eight. Isabel asks for plain work &c two dollars—writing added, three—Grammar, Geography, working muslin, &c four dollars. Of the comparative merit of the schools", Harriot Putnam writes, "I feel unable to judge. Both are recommended. Mrs. H. has more experience. Her school is distant about one third of a mile. Isabel keeps in Dea. Tappan's house." This letter of June 4, 1816 closes with, "I shall attend a little to instructing Mary my-

self. I am glad to have her with us & hope her progress will answer your largest wishes."

The experiment in education was so successful that Mary Ann writes the Putnams early in 1817:

"Danvers March 29, 1817

Dear Brother and Sister

I have wanted to see you for several months past but more especially I have longed to see my young Nephew. We are all glad to hear he is quite (quiet) and healthy. I almost long to be in Portsmouth. We are all well. Betsy intends to go to Gloucester next week so as to be in season to set up her school. We dont know who is to keep our school this summer but tis not likely we shall have so good a school as I went to last summer and what is of more advantage the society we have here you know is not as I should find in Portsmouth. Will you be so kind as to write me a letter and give us your opinion about my spending the ensuing summer with you in P°. Papa is willing to do as may be thought for the best. The school committee have reported to the town their opinion respecting the schools: and our school viz N°. 4 they say has made very extraordinary improvement. N°. 1 stands next. And then afterwards the other schools have made middling improvement. I hope sister Harriot will, amidst all her cares find time to write a few words to her affectionate sister Mary Ann. Love to little Charles Israel."

Addressed: Rev. Israel W. Putnam, Portsmouth.

This letter is written in a clear hand, correctly addressed. Mary Ann's wish was granted and in July, Harriot Putnam writes to her father-in-law, "It is very pleasant to me to have her with me . . . I wish it were in my power to do more for her . . . I do hope she will improve."

In October of 1817 Mary Ann wrote a letter to her parents which is a model of penmanship for any child of twelve years of age. Except that she omits the long introductory discourse on religion, her letter is characteristic of all Putnam family letters of this time containing family and church news, family worries about health, and affectionate comments or inquiries about the children.

"Portsmouth October 14, 1817

"Dear Parents,

I sit down a few moments this evening to write a few lines to you. I have been rather lonesome since brother has

been gone. I have not done going to school yet, my quarter will be out in about two weeks. The society of little girls flourishes very well. We are reading the Family Instructor now. Sister Harriot is in hopes that we shall do (eno)ugh soon to support a heathen child. Lucida Akerman has begun to deny herself of sugar for this purpose. We received a letter from brother Israel to day, his health is about the same as when he left though he says he feels more strength and energy. The Rev. Mr. Hildreth of Exeter has preached here since brother been gone. Little Charles Israel grows very well he has got two teeth he can walk very well with a little help.

your affectionate daughter,

Mary Ann.

P.S. Please to send my great Coat the first opportunity."

In the spring of 1818 Mary Ann had hopes that her friend, Catharine Putnam, daughter of Jesse (& Elizabeth Merriam) Putnam, would also attend school in Portsmouth during the summer. Catharine was but a few months older than Mary Ann. Whether Catharine made the journey or not is not recorded. The only item of this date is a list of rules which Harriot Putnam drew up for Mary Ann and submitted to Eleazer Putnam for his approval. They give some idea of the daily round of duties of this thirteen year old girl but no idea at all of any frolics or good times. And from letters of a later date it is evident that not only did the neighbors ask the children to come over, but Israel made a practice of taking some of his children with him, especially when he went into the country. He also developed for them an attic playroom.

"Harriot's rules for Mary Ann July 1818

"Rise in the morning at 6 o'clock. Comb hair with both combs. Take the clothes off the bed & open windows before coming down to wash. Use toothbrush every morning. (It would enliven your spirits to walk in the garden a few minutes.) Then attend to reading or lessons till called to prayers. After breakfast put chamber in order, then attend to study till school time. Half an hour at noon must be employed in study or work. After school there are generally two hours before tea. Some of this time may be allowed for recreation, but one hour must be usefully employed in work or reading. Sweep chamber every Wednes. & Satur. Must not go into the kitchen at meal times unless to get something particular. Wednes. & Sat. afternoons clothes must be put in order. Any attention to Charles Israel, at noon or night, will

be gratefully received. My dear sister should ever remember that some part of every day should be employed in reading the Bible & in prayer. Morning & evening are the most convenient seasons for these duties.

"Tickets. 1. Early rising. 2. Care of chamber. 3. Care of clothes. 4. Diligence. 5. Neatness. 6. Sabbath lessons. 7. Politeness."

On Betsey's return from a visit to Portsmouth in March, 1819 Mary Ann writes sister Harriot. She excuses her handwriting because she has been spinning all forenoon. She closes with, "Will you kiss the dear children for me. We cannot think of anything to send Osgood. . . I have a pritty butterfly I would give to him but Betsy says he would eat it up."

Before Betsy Putnam set out for her school at Gloucester she took thought for Mary Ann's summer. The child is (again) disappointed that Catharine Putnam will not go with her to Portsmouth to school, "possibly Mary Symonds (from Hillsboro) may accompany her." Betsy wants her to go "as early as she can even if she goes alone, (so) that Portsmouth advantages need not be unjustly put down, (for) if she goes, her acquirements will be compared with Catharine's." Betsy half apologizes, "I feel a good deal for Mary A . . . She is a motherless child."

But Mary Ann's arrival was delayed. Harriot Putnam writes, "We feel really affected with Mary Ann's conclusion and rejoice in it . . . I hope she will commence her studies cheerfully & not be discouraged if she is not able to do everything she could wish . . . Israel thinks she had better come in the stage. She can get in at the Plain or Topsfield . . . She will not be much more than five hours in coming, and the only care she will have will be to see that she has her trunk when she starts from Newbury Port."

Mary Ann's ambitions must have been awakened for on October 19, Harriot Putnam writes her father-in-law, "I hope you will not be disappointed that Mary Ann does not return with br. Fuller . . . I think she has never been so much engaged in her studies as now. If you approve . . . will you not write her a few lines to encourage her to persevere? She has quite out grown her great coat." Mary Ann adds a page ending with a tactful request for a new coat. "My health is such that sister thinks it not prudent for me to go out without a great coat. If it is convenient for you, I should like to have you send the cloth or the money." Harriot on her page had offered to have the garment made up.

In 1820 Betsy expresses the hope, in her April letter to Harriot Putnam, that Mary Ann can go to Portsmouth for the summer. "The truth is she does just as she is a mind to (in) all those things she ought not to at home . . . very improper management. Oh my heart aches to think of it." Again Betsy's hopes are realized. On September 13 she writes to Harriot that she is planning to get "all the news of the Putnam children from father & Mary when they arrive from Po." In spite of "poor management", comments on Mary Ann would indicate that her father was right when he called her "a pleasant child", one whom her sister-in-law found "cheerful" and was "glad to have around".

Soon after Mary Ann was 18 she was married to John Tyler and went to live in a small house in Boxford. They were married the day before Christmas in 1823. Marriage agreed with Mary Ann for Betsy reports her "to have more life & energy than all the rest of us put together". But her happiness, if not her good health, was brief indeed. Not two years passed but John Tyler began to show signs of serious ill health. He had great difficulty in throwing off a cold in the winter 1825-26. Betsy reports his health as "very feeble" in February. His mother had been visiting them for a week just before Betsy's arrival.

On April 7 (just before Mr. Braman's ordination) Betsy writes Harriot Putnam, "I wanted to write & tell you & dear brother and sister B(etsy, Sam's wife) of our affliction in dear brother Tylers alarming illness but sorrow made my heart . . . heavy . . . Dear brother goes out everyday when it is pleasant. I presume you had the particulars of his illness from Father & Mary Ann he is no worse than when they wrote—has not raised any blood for two days the Doctor says his pulse is better & he now allows him to eat a little meat for dinner. He has had blood taken from his arm twice has been under the operation of a very powerful medicine is much reduced you would be surprised at the change of his looks—I greatly fear for him. I think Mary Ann does though she has a great deal of fortitude . . . Once or twice after her husband had gone out the anguish of her soul would break forth & she retired & wept much . . . I do not know what brother thinks of himself . . . He appears serious but pleasant & gentle as a lamb. I am a good deal concerned for Mary Ann—she sits all the time & works every moment that she is not doing something for her husband—She began her preparation (for the

baby) only about two weeks ago & feels hurried but will not let me put by my lace . . . ”

In an undated letter by Betsy (Mrs. Hiram Putnam had just had a new daughter) she says, “About a week since brother Tyler saw Dr. Parson. He said he thought there was a little general improvement in his health—but that he must devote himself intirely to the care of his health—milk diet altogether—or a very little meat—exercise a good deal in the open air and if with great care he could gain a little in the 4 months to come, he must think himself well off . . . Dear Mary Ann is carried along so mercifully . . . Though at times she suffers in mind and health, (God) has granted her great fortitude so far.”

Betsy writes in another undated letter (about the time of the death of Isabel Eustis), “I think, but then it may not be so, that dear brother Tyler is going the way of all the earth & that soon very soon we shall see him no more—I am afraid he is not aware of his situation & what rings my heart most bitterly I fear he is not prepared for it . . . I am anxious for dear Mary Ann. I dare not at this time express my fears for brother. She will not be prevailed upon to take exercise—keeps over her husband all the time . . . Oh I wish they had somebody better (than I to help them)”.

Sometime in June or July Mary Ann was confined, “on a Tuesday morning about ten minuits before 5.” The little daughter seemed well at first, “but it dont incline to nurse” and soon developed a “soor mouth” which proved infectious, according to Betsy. Early in October the poor little “babe” died in considerable agony. “After the dear dust (of little Mercy) was consigned to its lowly bed we sat a few days & then got up & took all things down & packed them up to leave a place where we had experienced uncommon mercies & afflictions. I stayed two nights after they left (with the girl) . . . & then locked up our doors with such feelings as I imagine I shall close my eyes with for the last time. (I am) only now beginning to sleep a little.”

After a period the Tylers returned to their home for John Tyler wrote Elizabeth Adams’ brother that the house appears new & strange. He feels the weight of disappointed hopes, but if they have desired affect upon his heart, all will be well. Except for his interest in the revival of 1824 at Salem, this is the one glimpse we have of the thoughts of the man whom Mary Ann loved, married and lost. Elizabeth Adams writes on October 28, 1826 from Betsy’s room in Danvers on her way

"tomorrow" to Boxford, evidently to help the Tylers. She reports Mr. Tyler's "health about the same, his cough pretty bad. Mary Ann, pretty well, able to wait on his sister (who) is very sick with Tyfud fever".

In November when Eleazer Putnam and his wife returned from a Portsmouth visit, Mary Ann and her husband came down to Danvers to welcome them home and to rejoice with Betsy over the pretty ribbon Harriot Putnam had sent. They went down again early in December according to Betsy, who writes from Aunt W(ilkins) at Middleton. At that time "Mary Ann & brother Tyler were as comfortable in health as they have been for sometime. M. A. was depressed in spirits" but read Harriot's letters with interest and sent her best love, "but can't write herself," adding, "but I hope my husband will." She had been deeply affected by Harriot's letter of sympathy when she lost her baby, so much so that Betsy could not ask to see it.

A letter from Andover dated July 18, 1827 written to Harriot Putnam at Portsmouth says, "Mr. Tyler called yesterday and took (4-year old) Harriot Putnam to spend a week with 'aunt Mary Ann'. She is quite pleased with the idea of going . . . for they have plenty of ducks & chickens & she (had) called there once before and became quite sociable with Mary Ann."

On November 30 of 1827 John Tyler died. He was 32 years old. The Putnams came down from Portsmouth for the funeral. And on December 24 Andover connections called and found "Betsy remarkably well . . . Mary Ann calm but sad . . . Elizabeth Adams was keeping there". A second daughter was born to Mary Ann on April 16, 1828 and named Ellen Maria. During that summer she visited Portsmouth, first her brother Samuel and his wife Betsy and then her brother Israel and his wife Harriot.

Living at Boxford for Mary Ann, even with Betsy as companion, proved difficult and John Tyler's people were unable or unwilling to take her in. In 1830 Eleazer Putnam and his wife arranged for the two daughters and the little granddaughter to live with them in the old family home in Danvers. Harriot Putnam wrote her father and mother-in-law a letter which he endorsed, "Harriot's kind letter, 1 June", addressing them as usual as "Dear Parents". She said, among other things, "The thought of your kindness in making these arrangements for the accommodations of our dear lonely and afflicted sisters deeply affected me and I could have wept and

prayed with you, that God would smile upon this effort and make it a mutual blessing to all concerned, and cause it greatly to increase the comfort and happiness of your declining days. Yes, it is a sweet thought, that our dear widowed sister . . . and her little fatherless one, may find a refuge in her dear native dwelling, within her kind parents' guardian care. And that our other dear sister shut out from the world, as it were, by the loss of her hearing, can dwell with her & that they may be mutual assistants and companions to each other in the journey of life. And it is a pleasant thought that they may have it in their power, dear parents, to render many kind attentions to you, which they could not had they gone into any other house . . . As you are advancing in life, and feel that you cannot longer be strangers to the infirmities of age, who so pleasant and proper to be near you as your own children, who will so gratefully endeavor to repay all your kindness to them. Surely the blessing of every humane heart will rest upon this arrangement."

John and Mary Ann Tyler's daughter, Mercy Ann, died when 14 weeks old and is buried in the Holten Street cemetery in Danvers. After Mary Ann's return to Danvers in 1830, it seems she was instrumental in getting Sylvanus Swan to take charge of Capt. Wilkins' farm. Mr. Swan's mother was born in Boxford and she may have become acquainted with him while living there. It is possible that Mary Ann Tyler went to live with Mrs. Wilkins during her husband's absence.

After a lengthy courtship, Mary Ann Tyler was married to Sylvanus B. Swan Nov. 22, 1836, by Rev. M. P. Braman. She bore three daughters before she died Nov. 15, 1844. Two of her daughters died that same year, Louisa Robinson Swan on May 9 and Ellen Maria Tyler on Aug. 29. Her other two daughters died in 1857, Mary Holton on Jan. 4 and Elizabeth Putnam on Apr. 9. Betsey Putnam, Mary Ann's older sister, remained part of the household during the latter's lifetime.

Now to return to the story of Sylvanus B. Swan. First let us set down the genealogical records of his family as written by him in an old account book. His father was Josiah Swan, born in Methuen, Oct. 12, 1774, died Feb. 15, 1820, ae. 45 yrs. 4 mos. His mother was Elizabeth Robinson, born in Boxford, Dec. 31, 1777, and died in Lawrence, Sept. 23, 1856, ae. 78 yrs. 8 mos. She had married a Mr. Dow and is buried in the Preston Street cemetery, as are all of Mr. Swan's family.

Among Mr. Swan's notes is the following inscription for her tombstone:

"Sacred to the memory of Mrs. Elizabeth Dow
Thou shalt come to thy grave in a full age
like as a shock of corn cometh in its season.
This monument is erected by her affectionate son
Sylvanus B. Swan."

Mrs. Elizabeth (Robinson) Swan was the daughter of John Robinson (called Esquire and Major) who was born in 1740 and died Jan. 22, 1810 in his 71st year of age. Her mother was Becca Wood, daughter of Daniel and Sarah (Peabody) bp. Feb. 12, 1743 and died Mar. 30, 1810 in her 67th year. They were married June 30, 1763 in Boxford.

The children of John and Becca (Wood) Robinson were:

Israel, b. Mar. 21, 1764, d. in 1840, æ. 76

John, b. May 20, 1765, d. Aug. 13, 1790, æ. 25.

Rebecca, b. May 16, 1767, d. Aug. 18, 1830, æ. 63.

Benjamin, b. Feb. 3, 1769, d. Mar. 26, 1841, æ. 72.

Nathan, b. Oct. 13, 1770, d. Feb. 28, 1835, æ. 63. (also his wife Apr. 20, 1827)

Aaron, b. Sept. 29, 1772, d. July 21, 1844, æ. 73 (also his wife Dec. 2, 183-)

Deborah, b. Oct. 17, 1774, d. June 1842, æ. 67.

Elizabeth, b. Dec. 30, 1777, d. Sept. 23, 1856, æ. 78.

Joseph, b. Oct. 27, 1779, d. Aug. 21, 1816, æ. 37.

Sarah, b. Oct. 30, 1782, d. May 3, 1849, æ. 66.

Jeremy, b. May 30, 1787, d. Nov. 12, 1834, æ. 47.

Josiah Swan and Elizabeth Robinson were married Nov. 29, 1801. Mr. Swan made the following record of the births and deaths of their children:

Almira R. (Dolloff) b. in Boxford, Mass., Mar. 2, 1802, d. Nov. 4, 1872, æ. 70 yrs. 8 mos.

Sophia S., b. in New Hampton, N. H. Mar. 10, 1804, d. July 1831, æ. 27 yrs. 4 mos.

Sylvanus B., b. in Bristol, N. H. July 21, 1806.

Pliny R., b. in New Hampton, N. H. Dec. 27, 1807, d. Feb. 27, 1808.

Horace B., b. in New Hampton, N. H. Apr. 11, 1812, d. Oct. 19, 1872, æ. 60 yrs. 6 mos.

Betsy R. (Gordon) b. in New Hampton, N. H. Mar. 1, 1814.
Her husband, John S. Gordon, b. Sept. 2, 1810, d. July 17, 1868, æ. 58 yrs. 10 mos.

Mary A. W., b. in New Hampton, N. H. Mar. 15, 1816, d. Aug. 24, 1821, æ. 5 yrs. 5 mos.

It was generally supposed that Mr. Swan took over the Eleazer Putnam farm through inheritance by his wife. But the deed shows that he paid her brothers and sister \$3728 for their interest in the property. Those signing the deed were Israel W., Betsy, Archelaus F. and Samuel Putnam. They conveyed "all interest except part in which his wife in her right is seized." It was dated Nov. 4, 1837⁹.

We are able to give an intimate account of Sylvanus B. Swan's life and his farm from Mr. Henry P. Thurlow's story printed in the Salem News some 20 years ago. The late Lyman Wilkins of Middleton worked for Mr. Swan when a boy and it is from him that much of the information was gathered. Mr. Thurlow describes Mr. Swan as follows:

"Mr. Swan was a typical New Englander of the highest type. Mr. Wilkins speaks of him as a fine farmer and a very religious man. He was close as to money, yet in the matter of missions he gave generously. In figure he was tall and bony, in speech sharp and abrupt, in his business dealings painfully honest. He was very neat as to dress. On Sunday he always wore a black swallow tailed coat. His white collar was of the type often seen in pictures, the front low, the back high, ending in sharp points below the ears. Around the collar, instead of the present day necktie, was a black neck stock. He occasionally wore a collar during the week. He was a familiar sight in his "half high" hat and rain coat.

"Mr. Swan was a very hard worker and an early riser in the morning. For an evening's entertainment, where we go to the movies, or such like, he husked corn, shelled it or did such work, that he might not lose any time from the next day. It is said of him that he was always ahead of his work. He was very fussy as to wind and weather. The almanac hung close by and was carefully consulted. He was particular as to his walls and fences.

"The food habits of the family were interesting. It is seldom that a barrel of flour was purchased. The bread for the most part came from rye or corn. All his grain was ground at nearby mills. He saved some of the corn meal and all of the rye for the kitchen. The baking of bread and pies was done every Saturday morning in the huge brick oven.

"There was an early breakfast in the Swan home. Following the breakfast family prayers were held led by Mrs. Swan. At nine o'clock, if he and the help were near the house, they

⁹ Essex So. Reg. of Deeds, Bk. 318, leaf 1.

went in for lunch of bread and milk. If they were in distant fields, Mrs. Swan would bring out the lunch to them. At 12 o'clock came the heavy meal. Supper was served at 5 o'clock. After supper the cows were milked and the chores finished."

Mr. Thurlow's interest was created when the old barn, built by Mr. Swan in 1836, was torn down by order of the trustees of the Agricultural School. This barn was made of white pine cut by Mr. Swan from his woodlot in Middleton and hauled by oxen to the farm. It was a typical New England structure, painted red in its later years, and of sturdy construction. It was pinned together by oak pins. On one side the cattle were tied up while on the other were the horse stalls and great hay mows. All the hay was cut and raked by hand and there was room for about 35 tons in this building.

The house had been built about 1736 by Samuel Putnam, the father of Squire Eleazer, of a leanto type. This was torn down by the School authorities in 1917. It is a pity that both these splendid structures of early New England farmers had to give way in our modern times. Standing on the grounds of a school to train young men for life work in agricultural lines, they could have served as examples of the type of buildings used by our forefathers. With their crude hand-made tools and by thrift and hard work, they made a good living and were able to amass a tidy sum for their later life.

These buildings are symbolical of an all-sufficient farmer. He raised his own food, the material for his clothes—in fact, he lived off the land. He cut his timber and hauled it, gathered the stones and laid his wall. With his neighbors, he had a "framing bee" or hired a carpenter to help in building the structures.

Modern buildings may be built better but never with such lasting qualities. The former represent an age of specialization. One set of men produce the timber, another the nails, another the cement. Each item represents different workers. The Unions would not allow it otherwise. But these buildings might have proved a poor monument or inspiration to the younger generation. They look today for an easy job, short hours, big pay and social security or pension in their old age.

To Sylvanus B. Swan and his wife Mary Ann were born three daughters. He sets down these records in his book on Apr. 14, 1857:

"A record of the family of Sylvanus B. Swan

I was born in Bristol, N. H. in the year 1806, July 21.

I was married to Mrs. M. A. (Putnam) Tyler, Nov. 22, 1836.

She was b. in 1805, Aug. 5, in Danvers.

My wife, Mary Ann Swan died Nov. 15, 1844. Aged 39 years 3 months & 10 days. A very lovely aimable woman, Disease Typhus Fever.

My daughter Elizabeth Putnam Swan was born Nov. 8, 1837 in Danvers. Died April 9, 1857, aged 19 years 5 months & 1 day. A very lovely child. Disease Consumption.

My daughter Mary Holten Swan was born July 26, 1841 in Danvers. Died Jan. 4, 1857 aged 15 years 5 months & 8 days. Died suddenly of Congestion of the Brain. Aimable in life and lovely in death.

My daughter Louisa Robinson Swan was born July 23, 1843 in Danvers. Died May 9, 1844, aged 9 months & 16 days. Disease Congestion of the Brain. A beautiful child.

I was again married in 1846, May 26, to Lydia Adams. She was born in New Boston, N. H. Oct. 24, 1810."

Mr. Swan's farm stretched along both sides of what is now Preston and Maple Streets. It included land along the south side of Maple St. as far as what is now the piggery at the State hospital, and what was commonly called Hines store at Hathorne, now housing the branch post office. There was an underpass under the street for cattle. It also extended down a good part of the northern side of the street, including part of what is now the garden of the hospital and the Putnam private burying ground. It did not include any land of what is known as the Preston farm, but was on both sides of Preston Street. There was a parcel, above the Preston farm that extended to the old Ferncroft Road, so-called. It even included land now owned by the Essex Sanatorium.

Mr. Swan also owned land including wood lots, an ox pasture and swamp in Middleton and North Andover. Here was cut the timber and wood which he sold each year. For cattle, he preferred the Durham breed, according to Lyman Wilkins. These were large animals, giving but six to seven quarts of milk a day but rich in quality. He made butter which he sold. For oxen, however, Mr. Swan like the Devon. They were liked for their docility, quickness and ability to learn what was wanted of them.

His love for oxen was well-known. Devon was his pride. He would permit no one to drive but himself. He used to polish their horns, put brass buttons on the ends, and brush them until they shone. He was said to have the sleekest animals in the neighborhood. I know this to be true, for my grandfather hired Mr. Swan's oxen among the many pairs he had to move the Dist. No. 4 schoolhouse to its present site.

In descending the long hill, Mr. Swan did not like the method the mover was planning to use in holding back the building. Fearing there might be injury to his oxen, he removed them and took them back to his farm.

Mr. Swan kept a horse for driving. With his horse hitched to a two seated vehicle with a top, called church wagon or carryall, he drove to service at the First Church every Sunday. He was treasurer and collector for the society for many years.

He was most successful in raising various farm crops. His most outstanding one was the Swan oat. He is said to have raised 200 bus. a year and people came some distance to obtain the oats for seed. The price was a dollar a bushel, a high price for those times.

A glance over his account books gives us some idea of the produce he sold and the names of many familiar residents as his customers. He hired men to cut wood in winter which he hauled to his farm and later delivered as he received orders for it.

The first entries in the book began with Jan. 1843 and many of the items are for wood. The first page lists as customers, Samuel Knowles, D. Richards, Capt. S. Wilkins, Isaac Dempsey, Jason Richardson, Eben P. Colcord, David Gilford, Wm. Preston, Allen Knight, John Dodge, Dr. Osgood, Rufus Tapley, and many others.

The charges are for oak wood, meadow hay, corn, pine wood, oats, meal, vinegar and butter. Labor for plowing is also included. During the time these entries were made, price of butter ranged from 15¢ to 20¢ a pound. The cost for a day's labor picking apples was \$1.00 for himself and \$1.87 for himself and boy.

There are several entries regarding boys whom he hired to work for him. An example is the one dated "May 8, 1845. Samuel Campbell began work at five dollars per month.

"May 14 he is Dr. to a pair of shoes	\$1.00
July 2 to cash delivered to Mr. Emerson	9.00
Aug. 4 to overhauls	.62½
23 to cotton cloth for shirts	.64
Sept. 13 to hat	.37½
19 to pair of shoes	1.25

12.89

Left work Sept. 15 after working 4 months & 6 days	25.39
Sam has taken up	12.89

Sept. 15 Due him from S. B. Swan	12.50
Sept. 30 paid him	10.00

The balance has been paid by E. P. Colcord."

Others who worked for Mr. Swan during these years were his brother, Horace B. Swan, Henry Hutchinson, and James Russell.

Mr. Swan had charge of the affairs of the school in Dist. No. 4 and the expenses were included in his book. The charges for 1847 were:

To water pail & broom	.50
To glass & putty	.17
To broom	.20
To lock & key	.25
To 12 ft. of oak wood	11.25
To 4 ft. pine wood	2.25
Paid Mr. Very for working up wood	3.75
Paid C. A. Putnam 133.50 J. Berry 3.25	136.75

	154.12
Recd by order of the town	\$60.
Paid Susan Putnam	54.23

	1.77
Recd. from J. D. Very for 1846	4.46
Recd. from the Bank school money	38.39

Due the District	44.62
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Settled the above account with C. P. Preston.

In addition to his many duties, Mr. Swan had charge of the highways in his District. There are many items charged to the town for labor.

June 3, 1845 To labor on the highway	\$2.50
Wm Preston & oxen	2.00
George Town	1.00
To 33 loads of gravel	2.00
Oct. 10 to labor near Charles Fishers house	.10
To making bar cross the road by the walnut tree	.20
To repairs near the turnpike at D. Putnam's	.50



AN EZRA BATCHELDER CLOCK

Sold to Eleazer Putnam, Mar. 31, 1819. Now
owned by a descendant, Windsor Briggs Putnam
of New York

—*Courtesy Miss Elizabeth W. Putnam*

1846 Jan. 23 To shoveling snow	.25
Feb. 10 to breaking paths in Ward No. 10	4.00
21 to breaking paths	2.00
25 to breaking the back road	3.00
June 3 Joseph Putnam 2 men & pair oxen	3.00
John Preston 1 pair oxen	2.00
S. B. Swan	3.50
Wm. Preston 1/2 day	.50
Parker Wells 4 hours	.40
D. White	.46

Realizing the value to the community of the extension of the railroad to Lawrence, Mr. Swan took an active part in its being built. The depot stood first near the bridge at the entrance to the hospital grounds. A walk from the west side of the bridge led to it. On Sept. 24, 1879, Mr. Swan deeded a lot of land to the Eastern Railroad Company between the location of the railroad and Maple Street. It was on this land the depot stood until the railroad was abandoned. The walk down from the bridge was continued to this point.

Mr. Swan conveyed the land on the following conditions: "the said company and its successors are to erect and forever maintain fence against the land. The said lot to be used for all purposes required for a Passenger and Freight Depot and none other than as a benefit for said Railroad and the public." It is said Mr. Swan was the first station master. Out of compliment to him, the station was first named Swan's Crossing. Later after the erection of the "Insane Asylum," as it was then called, it became Asylum Station. But this address was not pleasing to the citizens and it was again changed to Hathorne. The railroad has long since disappeared but this section of the town is still Hathorne.

Mr. Swan passed away on Jan. 25, 1881 at the age of 75 years. His second wife followed him two years later, Aug. 3, 1883 at the age of 72 years. With her going there was no one left of the Swan family. After her death there was an auction. The house was filled with a wonderful collection of antique furniture. Some of these are in the family of Miss Elizabeth W. Putnam in Brooklyn, N. Y. One article is a tall clock made by Ezra Batchelder. In Mr. Batchelder's account book is the following entry, "Mar. 31, 1819, Eleazer Putnam clock and case complete, \$53."¹⁰

Sylvanus Swan devised his estate to his wife during her life, then to his sister and nieces and nephews. His sister

¹⁰ Dan. Hist.. Coll. Vol. 23, p. 31.

was Betsey R. Gordon and her daughter, Carrie E. Knowlton of No. Fairfield, Ohio. The other nieces and nephews were children of his sister Almira Dolloff. In his old account book, Mr. Swan lists her nine children as follows:

Irene S. Dolloff, b. June 17, 1820

Mary A. Dolloff, b. Sept. 2, 1822

Frederick A. Dolloff, b. Mar. 31, 1825

Washington M. Dolloff, b. Feb. 16, 1828

Almira A. Dolloff, b. Mar. 7, 1830

Asa F. Dolloff, b. Mar. 21, 1832

John G. Dolloff, b. Jan. 5, 1835

Daniel S. Dolloff, b. June 20, 1837, d. Sept. 17—æ. 14 wks.

Levi N. Dolloff, b. Dec. 22, 1839

Of these children, four were living in 1881, three in New Hampshire, Augustus in Dorchester, Asa and Ann Dolloff Procter in Manchester. Washington was of Newburyport, Mass.

What is known today as the Putnam cemetery off the Newburyport Turnpike and Maple Street, was part of the Putnam farm owned by Sylvanus Swan. In it are buried Thomas Putnam and his daughter Anne, who took such an active part in the witchcraft accusations in 1692. Mr. Swan and his wife Ann conveyed the cemetery to Daniel and Jesse Putnam, Dec. 15, 1840.¹¹ It contained 93 poles and was surrounded by field and pasture of Mr. Swan and Daniel Putnam. The deed stated, "said land comprises the burying ground of a part of the Putnam family and is conveyed to be used as a burying ground by said Daniel and Jesse, their families and such other persons as said Daniel and Jesse or their heirs may permit and further said Daniel and Jesse may cultivate said land and use the produce of the same to any extent not interfering with the use of said land as a burying ground." In late years this cemetery has been taken care of by Albert F. Learoyd and his son F. Kenneth, descendants of the former owners.

¹¹ Essex So. Reg. Deeds, Bk. 323, leaf 205.

BUILDINGS ERECTED IN DANVERS IN 1949

Gerald Grandmaison, rear 257 Centre St.; Richard Durkee, 3 and 5 Durkee Circle; Albert Durkee, 7 Durkee Circle and 111 Ash St.; Arthur E. Lavoie, 11 Green St.; Stafford N. Hennigar, 8, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19 and 20 Belgian Rd. and 27 Burley Farm Rd.; Thomas Lynch, Jr., Sylvan St.; W. J. Johnson, 345 Maple St.; Andrew J. Paulson, 8 Cole Rd.; Henry R. Cameron, 7 Prince Place; Danvers Construction Co., 3, 5, 7, 10, 12 Cole Rd.; Norman Weeks, 1 Weeks Rd.; John T. Larivee, 12 Garfield Ave.; James O'Brien, 46 Liberty St.; Alfred F. Pariseau, Lafayette Ave.; Clarence Johnson, Jr., 32 Pine St.; Clarence Johnson, Otis and Pine Sts.; Claron M. Scott, 78 Sylvan St.; Percy Durkee, 9 Durkee Circle; Garner Lewis, 51 Endicott St.; Michael Romeos, Endicott St.; Rachel M. Kane, 121 Collins St.; Henry Travers, 15 Shetland Rd.; Patrick P. Callaghan, 116 Conant St.; Carl T. Sahlin, Elliott St. and Lupine Rd.; Salvatore J. Marletto, Eden Glen Ave.; Helen B. Brown, 41 Columbia Rd.; Jos. A. Powers, Burley St.; Delina Thibault, 74 Hobart St.; Jos. A. Griffin, 51 and 52 Wenham St.; Beverly T. Cail, Loring Rd.; James E. Trask, 206 Conant St.; Harry Burbidge, 12 Stafford Rd.; John E. Hiltonen, 28 Stafford Rd.; Merton Silvernail, Dayton St.; Albert Teriault, 128 Sylvan St.; Grace Callanan, 10 Lindall St.; Alden F. Moreland, 11 Shetland Rd.; Francis O. Maynard, Riverview Ave.; Gardner B. Tipert, 153 Andover St.; Dom Qualialo, 13 Martin Court; Norman R. Weeks, Weeks Rd.; H. G. Parker, Hood Terrace; Clarke M. Wheeler, 15 Dayton St.; Frances Landry, 16 Green St.; Carl Hanson, Route 128; Charles W. Wyman, 26 Riverside St.; Robert T. Berry, 153 Andover St.; Paul A. Begin, 9 Puritan Rd.; Jos. A. Roy, Shetland Rd.; James F. Callahan, 101 Ash St.; Roscoe J. Quinlan, 7 Stafford Rd.; Thomas E. Curran, Pickering St.; Leonard Bellows, Liberty St.; Angel Makros, 196 Elliott St.; W. A. Robbins, Collins St.; Frederick Sylvester, Fowler St.; Burpee Swindell, Beaver Park; Herbert Fairfield, Locust St.; John Bettencourt, 146 Sylvan St.; Roy C. Clark, 13 Riverside St.; Aubert S. Giles, Maple St.; Annie M. Fedas, Green St.; C. E. Teriault, Green St.; William A. Joyce, Stafford Rd.; Claron M. Scott, 127 Pine St.; Gaetano DeLorenzo, Eden Glen Ave.; Robert J. Fossa, off Route 128; John D. Jackson, Prince Place and Weeks Rd.; Robert E. Jenkins, 70 Collins St.; James J. Silva, Stafford Rd.; Annette M. Bolduc, 3 Grant St.; George I. Paradis, 34 Summer St.; Theodore Silva, 24 Bay View Terr.; Chas. C. Littlewood, 4 Franklin St.; Ira Zwicker, 11 Bradstreet Ave.; Alfred Currier, 94 Poplar St.

CANDIDATE AT MIDDLEBORO, 1835.

BY ELIZABETH WHITNEY PUTNAM

(Based on letters of Israel W. Putnam to his wife, Julia Ann Putnam, owned by Mariquita Eddy Clark)

We all have to seek employment, and this is one of the ways they did it in 1835.

Within 11 miles of his destination, Middleboro, Israel W. Putnam stopped to write a letter to his wife in Portsmouth. "I seem to have been coming away from home more than in any travel for many yrs. I am entirely a stranger in these towns—keep asking myself whither I am going? & for what?" But with his usual feeling of cautious hopefulness he adds, "I seem to hear a voice saying, 'This is the way'." A helpful view to take in facing an examination as a candidate for a pastorate.

The trip to Middleboro, of some 88 miles, was made over roads which were generally good. The route which Mr. Putnam followed took him from Boston through Dorchester, Milton, Randolph & N. Bridgewater, the two latter he thought "fine villages". The weather was cool & Juno, the horse, travelled pretty well owing to the "chopped fodder" she had while in Portsmouth. Since Mr. Putnam's horse was cared for over night by Mr. Smith, a friend, and he dined with Rev. Mr. (Calvin)¹ Hitchcock at Randolph, his expenses had been but 12½ cts for Juno & 75 cts for tolls since leaving home. Mr. Hitchcock was able to give Mr. Putnam "very important intelligence" about conditions at Middleboro as he had attended several ecclesiastical councils held in an effort to settle some of the disputes between the two factions of the First Congregational Church there. One faction had supported Rev. Mr. Emerson Paine (pastor 1816-22), the other Rev. Mr. William Eaton (pastor 1824-34). Mr. Randolph reported Middleboro to be a large, powerful town and rejoiced at Mr. Putnam's going there.

The ride from West Bridgewater proved pleasant, over a

1. Information in brackets obtained from "History of the First Church" published in 1854, Eccles. Councils of 1834 & minutes of that of Oct. 28, 1835, local histories and genealogies with thanks to New York Public Library, Boston Public Library and Congregational Library of Boston.

good road through orchards whose fruit trees were loaded. Mr. Putnam stopped near the principal village of Middleboro, called Four Corners, to call upon Judge Wood. "This family is a very good one indeed." (The Hon. Wilkes Wood was Judge of Probate for the Court of Plymouth, his brother, Horatio G. was a partner of Col. Peter H. Peirce, owner of a store and several industrial concerns, and his son, Cornelius was married to Lucy Ann, daughter of Gen. Abiel Washburn, Middleboro's largest taxpayer.)

After tea which was ready at $\frac{1}{2}$ after 5, Mr. Putnam set out for his lodgings at Mr. Dillingham's, close by the Meeting House at the Green, "a very handsome building". To his great joy and future comfort he found that (Ezra) Dillingham had married (Susan Pickering) Greenough of Greenland, near Portsmouth. "Her brother, Stephen Greenough, was our first boy in Portsmouth. Betsy (IWP's sister) will remember him. Her husband is 20 years older than she, I should think. He came in late from his work & is hard of hearing—has lately come to this place & given \$4,800 for this farm." The day closed in the customary manner. "Mrs. D. read the Bible, I prayed & all appears well."

On Aug. 23, his first Sabbath morning in Middleboro, Israel Putnam writes, "I cannot describe to you the newness & strangeness of my feelings. All is still—no voice heard, no foot moving, no mortal body seen. The people are all in the villages 1, 2 & 3 miles off & on the farms. The weather is cold but pleasant. The prospect is of a large assembly. May the Lord remember me." At the close of the day Mr. Putnam was thankful that he had felt less embarrassed than he had anticipated at the thought of preaching to a people who were having to find out how well they liked him rather than to gain spiritual benefit. "The congregation was large & attentive, the singing pretty good, the house easy to speak in & very handsomely finished inside." He preached A. M. on "Chⁿ. Race"; P. M. "Worth of the soul", and attending Sabbath school during the noon intermission found it "very low". At $\frac{1}{2}$ after 5 he preached a third time at a school house near Gen. Washburn's which was well filled, the audience solemn. Although invited to tea at Gen. Washburn's he declined & came home. "What a Providence that I sh^d. be with the only family I know."

Summarizing his first impressions of Middleboro, he notes that the parish is large, extending 6 or 8 miles in different directions, and prosperous, but how he does not see as the

land is not generally good. The church is inviting, the parsonage a good building. But the Post Office is 2 miles off where also are the stores and "principal mechaniks." The little school house at the Green is kept summer & winter and the Baptists have an academy at Four Corners said to be very respectable. Wagons & carriages of all sorts pass, all of them with wheels as wide apart as his chaise. Living is about as dear as in Portsmouth for such articles as butter, meal, hay, corn & oats. How it is at the stores for West Indian & English goods he doesn't know.

His first callers were Judge Wood & wife and Mr. (Ebenezer) Pickens, good people on one side of the late ecclesiastical difficulties (favoring Mr. Eaton as pastor) and from Zachariah Eddy Esq., a lawyer, the leading man on the other side (favoring Mr. Paine). "Mr. Pickens has engaged me to his house to tea this (Monday) P.M. He is a very good man & his wife leads the Sab. School, goes into singing seats & carries some of the children & leads there. They live at the Four Corners". (Mrs. Pickens was Mary B. Thompson, sister of Judge Wood's 2nd wife.) "Esq. Eddy told me, a fund has paid the salary (of the minister) hitherto—but now only 1/3 of it remains, & they intend to tax themselves in a free-will-offering way. They want a minister of experience, one who by having sermons already written could go thro the parish & stir the people. He was 'glad the Fund was so far gone, (as) the people were able to support a minister by their own contributions & that is the way it ought to be supported.' He talked very well—& is a sensible man—has one son a lawyer (William Henry 1813-39) & one just graduated (Samuel, 1816-37, Brown Univ.) now studying with him—daughter also well married.

Before going to Mrs. Pickens on Monday, Mr. Putnam called at Gen. Washburn's. "He lives in a village 1½ miles west, is concerned largely in trade & manufactures—wealthy & influential—a member of Chh, aged 72 or 73." There he found a daughter (Louisa Jane) and her husband, Rev. Mr. (Elam) Smalley of Franklin, also a son, Philander and his wife Elizabeth (dau. of Henry & Dorcas Homes of Boston). "Young Mr. Washburn trades largely at the Four Corners which is 1½ miles from his father's. (A daughter, Elizabeth Peirce Washburn, had married Hercules Cushman. The parsonage at the Green stood on land purchased from Mr. Cushman.)

At Mrs. Pickens, Mr. Putnam met 4 or 5 gentlemen with their wives—some of each of the church parties. Capt.

Nathaniel Eddy, who had just returned from the Springs (Saratoga?) was present. "He & all his bros. are sons of old Deac. (Joshua) Eddy (who died in 1833)—all wealthy & highly respectable —men of talents & influence". Unfortunately Mr. Putnam was not introduced to Mr. Paine, the pastor who was supported by the Eddys and at this time lived in their village. Mr. Paine was very stiff. "Amidst the company I did not discover who he was till Mrs. Dillingham told me after my return. Had I known, I should have sought to draw him out & had I understood the characters of all, I would have done better, I think—& made others do better too."

"So far as I can perceive there is a disposition to forget old things & try to rally for the welfare of the chh. & Par. But things are low—lamentably low—owing to their having been without a minister two years & to the influence of the unhappy division. There seems to be little Unitarianism or Universalism or even Arminianism—All are orthodox & expect orthodox preaching & orthodox administrations—some indeed, I fear, are a little too orthodox. There is power enough for a large & powerful chh. & Par., one of the most so to be found in Plymouth C^o. One great difficulty is that the Meeting House is not on a spot where the forces of the people can concentrate advantageously. As to the farmer, this is with them just as with all farmers—but the villagers are exposed to the daily efforts of the other denominations. However, the chh. is fixed—it is a noble building—it is geographically centred. I should think the Cong. chh. & Par. would stand, if they had a good minister."

Tuesday morning while helping Mr. Dillingham on the farm for 1½ hours, Mr. Putnam learned that "the land raises corn & rye & oats—but not wheat. Heavy W. I. good goes up the River to Taunton 10 miles s.w. & thence to the stores by teams. Wood is about 2/3 of the Po. price. Eng. & W. I. goods probably about as cheap as in Po. There is a blacksmith who could shoe a horse; & a wheelwright—but they could not mend shoes, nor tins, nor many other things. A cross line of mails & stages runs from Plymouth to Taunton by this spot; but the great New Bedford route to Boston, wh. runs each way every other day, lies 1½ or 2 miles" away.

The old house in which Mr. Putnam was so comfortably lodged proved to be the Sproat Tavern. (It was built by James Soule in 1700 & first occupied by the Littles. Unfortunately it was taken down in 1898.) Mr. Putnam learned that it had been "a tavern house, in the Sproat name, for more

than 100 years. Mr. D. does entertain company now, when it called, but that is seldom. We live in good country style. Mrs. D. does a great deal for me—too much in the cooking way." In spite of his Grahamite leanings Mr. Putnam thought her "white bread baked in a tin baker before the fire, in the form of a thick fire cake—made of the nicest flour & saleratus & sour milk—the lightest bread I ever saw in my life. She always has rye bread, of the same fine quality—often very nice whortleberry sweated cake made in the same way—pies also applesauce—currant jelly—eggs, when I wish—meat in abundance—nice corn—pork &c. &c. Mr. D. loves to live well himself & Mary Thomas, who looks the nicest of any of us, & the hired man, Mr. Bryant, 50 or 60 years old, a very clever man, who lives in the parsonage, both sit with us at meals & it suits me very well."

Tuesday, Wednesday & part of Thursday of this first week Israel Putnam spent within doors as the weather was rainy. He wrote letters and he read the Recorder, also 70 pages "in *Nat. Hist. of Enthusiasm*, a book, which requires studying as well as reading. I am greatly pleased with it. How much I need some books, which I have not—such as a Concordance, Lat. & Gr. Dictionary &c. I miss my Library as soon as I begin to study." He was an inveterate newspaper reader & on Thursday spent 2 hours or more on those he received at the Post Office "as no newspaper is taken here."

On Thursday afternoon Mr. Putnam went to Eddyville & took tea at Capt. Nathaniel Eddy's & saw another brother. Four of them lived there. (According to Middleboro's historian, Thomas Weston, Zachariah lived on the east side of the Green, Joshua next his father's house, Nathaniel opposite & Ebenezer $\frac{1}{2}$ mile away. William Shaw lived in Waterville. Morton & John M. were not in the town.) Mr. Putnam remarks that "the Eddys make up the northern village & are powerful. All smart, enterprizing, wealthy. Capt. Eddy is a member of the church (No. 682) as is his wife (No. 797, Abby, dau. of Abel Andros of Plainfield, Ct.) & he said that things were coming to a better state in the church."

The first of the deacons to call on Mr. Putnam was (James) Sproat, who came on Friday morning. He also made the same encouraging observation as Capt. Eddy had, "which shows what (things) have been & what the church feels they ought to be." (James Sproat joined the church in 1816, No. 793 and became a deacon in 1833. He was the son of Robert jr. His wife Lucy, No. 827 was dau. of Dr. Jos. & Rebecca Clarke

and a descendant of Mercy Morton. Madame Morton, as she was known, was a leader of the "New Lights" and many Middleboro families traced their descent from her. Deac. Sproat's name will always be remembered as the architect of the fourth church, built in 1828 and still standing.) In the afternoon Mr. Putnam went to Judge Wood's to tea notwithstanding the rain. There was no company. On returning home he called on young Mrs. Washburn "who lives in a splendid house. But it was good to get back here to my own dear chamber." For the first time he enjoyed a good night's rest. "I cannot say I sleep very well. I have so many Tho'ts on my mind, that they neither be very still by night themselves, nor let my body have that rest which I have enjoyed at home. I think I should be better, however, if I had more exercise at hard work like what I heretofore got in my garden & if I had less mental excitement."

Saturday is usually a day of preparation for Sabbath for a pastor, and Israel Putnam spent the day at home, reading. "Have walked out alone this eve, on the grounds about the Meeting House. Oh! how I want some one to open my mind to on the subject of my condition here. As I can't converse, I write—& really I write (too) much; but everything here interest me. I have had a long talk this P.M. with a Mrs. Pool, a member of the church & a neighbor, who called."

The second Sabbath began with an appearance of rain, but the Lord dispersed the clouds as the first bell rung. Mr. Putnam preached A.M. on "Work out yr. own salvation with fear & trembling, for it is God which worketh in you &c." and P.M. "On Fearing God from the season of youth". "Sab. here, before meeting & at noon, is all to be given to the people. Indeed the sab. from 1½ aft. 9 or 10 to 3 is the harvest time of the minister. One great advantage I see in this short intermission & no dinner is a clear stomach & bright head & the consequent increased prospect of a tender heart on the part of the minister & the people in the afternoon." After the lecture in the school house 1½ miles off "I came up from the West, over the great, gentle hill to my dear home here, just as the sun was settling. And now I have been looking at the western sky—& a softer, sweeter one I think I never saw. The parsonage house is just in a western range from my chamber, across the road, which is amply wide. The chh. lies a little north—two or three humble dwellings in sight & some other buildings—all skirted with beautiful woods scattered thickly around. The moon lies off S.W. modestly & with increasing brightness pressing her course down the horizon.

“There was a collection this P.M. for an infirm man, member of the chh. now living in another town. Notice also that Sac. Sup. is to be administered next Sab. *Deo. vol.* & Prep. Lect. in Vestry Frid. P.M. 3 o’clk. I think Prep. meeting might be like one of our fortnightly Chh. Pr. meetings (at Portsmouth). It will be a delicate thing to manage that meeting & Sac. Sup. for this is the first coming together since the reconciliation of difficulties—which I am rejoiced to find has taken place. One Deacon & another member, wh. had been excluded, have been restored. (The Deacon was doubtless Calvin Tilson who became a member of the chh. May 22, 1803, No. 652, was chosen deacon Aug. 13, 1819, and died July 3, 1852 age 83. He had been excluded because of his opposition to Mr. Eaton and it had been necessary to call an ecclesiastical council of neighboring ministers to reconcile the members of the church to Deac. Tilson and to Br. Gisby. Although the council met in 1834, the reconciliation had been without effect until this time.)

Mr. Putnam did not know what impression he was making. “The leading men in Chh. & Par. are very cool & discreet. They receive me with great attention & kindness & speak as tho’ they expected me to keep on preaching. I shall visit considerable—but even this is difficult—for they don’t offer to visit with me, & I don’t like to bolt in upon the people. I am tired too in visiting part & not the whole. But the Lord will direct me, I trust.”

On Monday of the second week, “an acquaintance of our Mr. Patten at Mr. Danvenport’s” called to invite Mr. Putnam to tea on Tuesday. (This was Major Branch Harlow, (1792-1861). He had been a teacher, but was now in the iron business and lived in the old Briggs house. Like many other Plymouth county men he served in the county militia.) The use of titles, such as General, Major and Captain was customary in this part of the country, but had to be explained to a dweller in Portsmouth, such as Mrs. Putnam.

Early Tuesday Mr. Putnam went to Eddyville to visit five families, “among them old Mrs. Deac. Eddy, mother of the great family of that name. I was cordially rec’d & at almost every house invited to stay to dinner—but tho’t it best to return.” (Mrs. Eddy had been Lydia, dau. of Zachariah & grand daughter of Ichabod Paddock. Her dates are 1756-1838, those of her husband, Joshua, 1748-1833. They both joined the chh. Ap. 9, 1797, No. 634 and No. 633.) Before going to Maj. Harlow’s Mr. Putnam had an interview with

“an aged Mr. Clark, now almost 92, who had walked $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles to see some friends. A member of the ch. and a real christian.” (This was undoubtedly Mr. Josiah Clarke, who joined the ch. Oct. 19, 1823, No. 807, with his two grand daughters, Mary & Deborah. His wife was Hannah Harlow. He died, 1839 æ. 95.)

On Wednesday morning Mr. Putnam was forced to give up his trip to Rochester and instead devoted himself to “a new reading” of his wife’s last letter. “I thank you, my love, for the comforting words you speak about a place for us to live & labor in. I see you feel for me here & elsewhere as I go around, almost 50 years old, looking to see, if any people are willing to have me as minister. Very few people form any kind of conception what the situation of such a minister is. I don’t know but I had naturally as much sympathy on this point as most men, but I knew very little till now.” Mr. Bryant, “the clever old man”, who worked for Mr. Dillingham, had asked Mr. Putnam to call upon his family at the parsonage and Mr. Putnam had, out of delicacy of feeling, put it off. But Mrs. Dillingham thought the old man would be hurt and so on Wednesday afternoon, Mr. Putnam made the Bryants a visit. “A very amiable, plain people—living in family love & neatness, & yet ‘without God in the world’, I suppose. I only glanced an eye at the house. It is, I should think, plain & convenient.”

“I took tea Thursd. P.M. at old Dr. Sturtivant’s wh. is near—a very interesting family—he an Unitarian aged 85 but not troublesome—his wife & daughters all members of the church. (Dr. Thos. Sturtevant is remembered as a physician of skill. He died in 1836. His wife, Sarah, was the daughter of Zachariah & Sarah Soule. She died in 1839. Of the 4 daus. named as church members, Priscilla & Fanny were living in 1835, the former married.) The son, George, became a well-known physician, but the son Thomas, who, according to Mr. Putnam, lived in a small house near the Green, had never realized his promise. In the evening, following a rain, Mr. Putnam “went to Rochester after all—& had a very pl. visit—went on east side & returned on west of the great Assawamset pond—Mrs. Bigelow is feeble, just recovering from a sickness. She sends much love to you all.” Having heard much “of her fame as a mother & minister’s wife”, Israel Putnam had long planned this call upon “our dear Eliza Tappan”, now the wife of Rev. Mr. (Jonathan) Bigelow. It was unfortunate that the weather was colder than he knew, for he took some cold.

He crawled in great weakness from his bed Friday P.M. to the Vestry for Prep. Lect. to meet the 27 brethren & as many sisters who had gathered there. On his return to his chamber he was forced to send for Dr. Sturtevant, who gave him a swart calomel & jolep cathartic, the painful consequences he had to encounter thro' the night alone in his chamber. The next day, Saturday, he was prostrate. Dr. Sturtevant & his son, Dr. George both called. They gave him a little laudanum to quiet his bowels and he passed a comfortable night.

The third Sabbath at Middleboro, Sept. 6th, proved to be something of an ordeal for Rev. Mr. Putnam. "It must now be 6 or 9 months since this great chh. have come together at the sac. Table. I have trembled to meet the day, exhausted as I have been—but what can I do? No preacher far or near c^d. be had—the weather is pleasant & a great assembly will flock together." At the close of the day he recorded that he had been "mercifully carried thro' its labors—preached twice & administered the sac. cup. The Assembly was large—the communicants numerous. My subject A.M. was 'Christ precious to believers'—P.M. 'Behold I stand at the door & knock &c'. The Deacon, who was excommunicated here in times of troubles, but since restored, officiated. There was not a *deep* feeling.—but I could read an expression of gladness on all countenances."

On Monday morning of the third week of his stay, Mr. Putnam felt surprisingly comfortable without the help of any laxative medicine. He wondered at his strength as he had eaten little but thin milk porridge since the previous Wed. night. "Mr. Dillingham is gone to Boston this morning to bring hither old Mr. (John) & Mrs. Greenough, of Greenland, the parents of his wife. They are to have their home here—their goods are come. I am glad for Mrs. D. (as) they can help her much about her feeble little child." (But Elizabeth Nason Dillingham was not long to remain an ailing child. She was born in 1833, the first of 5 children, in Sandwich, from which town the Dillinghams came. They must soon have returned as all their children were born there. Elizabeth graduated from Mt. Holyoke College, 1853 and married David S. Marchant, 1857. She died in 1872.) After a call from Esq. Eddy in the morning, Mr. Putnam wrote "a page for my dear wife", full of appreciation of her difficulties in managing the family while he was away. He ended this page with, "The people here, I find, wish much to know something about you," a sentence which was to cause considerable misgivings to one of her shy nature.

In the afternoon Mr. Putnam went to see the daughter of Deacon Tilson, "who lives a mile off & is in a decline." (Judith Tilson was not to live many months. She died, unmarried, on Jan. 22, 1836, aged 30½.) A letter from Mrs. Putnam came just as her husband was going to the Missionary Concert in the evening. "I sketched it over & got a few tho'ts to work on while I was away—& on my return I read it again & again. You think I shall have a call here. I have tried to guard you against that—I have not heard a whisper of it from any quarter, wh. deserves consideration. There are many plain, simple, good people here who w^d. like it. But they don't rule. The great difficulty, wh. many feel, is salary: \$600 & the house is what they have given & they have been told, that in view of my large family, it w^d. not do to offer me that. Nothing, of course, is said to me—and I say nothing." As the Missionary Concert was close by Gen Washburn's, Mr. Putnam stopped there and met Judge Wood and wife. The meeting proved to be "thin—the truth is it was at the wrong time & wrong place. As to myself—for I have the vanity to suppose you think there is no subj. like that—I believe I caught no cold, (although) I got home at 9 (after) a cold ride of 1½ miles."

On Tuesday Mrs. Dillingham had company from Sandwich, their former residence—a sister of Mr. Dillingham's (probably Lucia, 1784-1856, as no other was living at this time) and Rev. Mr. Cobb, the minister, who married a niece. "Miss Dillingham, who came by way of Rochester, bro't me a precious parcel from Mrs. Bigelow—a most affec. letter filled with concern for me, as to health—& offering if I sh. be sick to come right on & take care of me. Oh! she is the same dear Eliza Tappan she was in former years—& indeed much improved by age & especially by the grace of God." (She was the daughter of Samuel Tappan, a school teacher, & Amelia his wife, baptized in 1796, married in Boston in 1822. She was the author of several books.)

At 3 P.M. on Tuesday afternoon Mr. Putnam started on "a circuit indeed". He went north, on Bridgewater Road 4 miles, & then turned east 1 mile—calling on 8 families. He reached Mr. Cephas Thompson's at ½ aft. 5. "His family is an important one & he a singular, but interesting man of 69—has been a portrait painter—& recently became a Christian (No. 935, April 1, 1832)—his wife too, & two daughters unmarried & other married & a son, who graduated at Amh. Coll. this year, all professors. They are cultivated & literary some-

what. They put my horse right up for the night—I had a pleasant eve; called on two neighboring families. He, Mr. T., is a Phrenologist—has a good Library. (On Wednesday morning) he carried me into his Painting room, & showed me 50 or 100 likenesses &c. He took a profile, mid. size likeness of me, with a very ingenious machine of his own invention & make. It was a very interesting scene & visit in such entire seculsion from the world.” (Mr. Cephas Thompson, 1775-1856, lived on River Street in the house once belonging to his parents, Capt. Wm. Thompson and Deborah Sturtevant. He had painted portraits of many interesting people, especially on his yearly tours in the South, among them one of Chief Justice Marshall, but above all he valued the portrait of his beautiful mother. He married first, Olivia Leonard and second, his first cousin, a niece of his mother’s, Lucy Thompson, from another line of the Thompson family. Lucy’s mother, Lucy, was a daughter of Lemuel Sturtevant of Halifax. The unmarried daughter of Cephas Thompson referred to above, Marietta, became a miniature painter in New York and two of the sons were artists.)

On the way home to dinner on Wednesday, Mr. Putnam “visited 8 others—plain farming people—living mostly in one storey houses, as is the custom in this part of the country. I was kindly rec^d. tho’ my visits were short.” He found that the Greenoughs had arrived the previous evening, “Mr. G. not well today.” Mr. D. had carried a note to Mr. Wheelwright of Boston for Mr. Putnam and brought one back—“Mrs. Wh^t. has had another daughter, born Mond. well & large—she comfortable.” At 3 o’clk Mr. Putnam again started out, paying 3 farm visits on his way to Eddyville. “Then went to Esq. Zach. Eddy’s to tea—met all 4 of the Eddy brothers & wives & other friends—Rev. Mr. Paine also. Pleasant hour or two—then went to old Mrs. Deac. Eddy’s to attend the meeting appointed on sab. It was thin & quite trying, people not quite expecting me to be there. But house was all in order for a regular preaching occasion & so I must preach. We had singing. I came home 2½ miles—rather cold—but bright moon.”

At sometime during this busy day, Sept. 9, Mr. Putnam was given the first word on his prospects as a candidate at Middleboro. “I met Deac. (John) Freeman—He said he tho’t, from all he c^d. see & hear, that I sh^d. suit the people—but nothing certain could be told yet—that the Parish w^d. have a meeting the last of the month & then it was expected they w^d. act about it—& that the chh. tho’t it best to wait to see what

the parish w^d. do. This comes with some authority & you see what it is. It w^d. seem, that I must wait 2 or 3 weeks from this time before I can know, what they think of me. I think, that my previously written sermons, & practical habit of riding & visiting—& perhaps a tolerable facility for social intercourse, are things in my case wh. w^d. be considered as peculiar qualifications in the future minister of this people. But whether I have other things, wh. are requisite for waking up & reviving the slumbering & dying state of things here, I don't know."

On Thursday on his way to visit the Rev. Mr. Colby, Mr. Putnam called on Deac. Sampson & dined there. (Samuel Sampson was an older man than John Freeman. He & his wife, Lydia Holmes, joined the church in 1808. No. 732 & No. 733. He came from a long line of men and women who had belonged to the church: John, Obadiah and Samuel. His great-grandmother was Mercy Eddy. He became deacon in 1826 and died in 1850, age 86. John Freeman was son of Elisha. His wife was Mary, dau. of Job Cole. He joined the church in 1807, No. 676, became deacon in 1833, was dismissed to Carver in 1846, and died in 1847, age 59.)

(During the next 15 years the Rev. Mr. Philip Colby was minister at Titicut, called North Middleboro. He was ordained on Jan. 1, 1817 and having been born in 1779 was a contemporary of Mr. Putnam's.) "The situation about the Meeting House is beautiful—fine houses, stores, Po. off. &c.—rather small parish—salary \$450 & house. (The low salary doubtless explains the fact that Mr. Colby served as Postmaster in his parish for a short time.) On my return back, called on three families & very pleasant ones. Tolerable tea at Gen. W's—but was glad to be back in my chamber."

Friday brought cold weather "wh. makes candidating look forbidding." Mr. Putnam was of two minds. He had intended to return home at this time, but is urged hard to preach another sab. And Mrs. Dillingham begged him to stay and help her on Monday "as she now wishes to have all the C^o. here that have invited me & her. Our Pr. M. this P.M. was rather thin—10 or 12 brethren & 15 or 20 sisters. Gen. Washburn, Esq. Eddy & Judge Wood, pious but not a professor (he joined the church on Mar. 7, 1837 No. 947) were present—They all appeared (solemn)—Two brethren prayed & I prayed twice & my subject was Prayer, Luke 18 1-5:"

And he spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint:

It was embarrassing to conduct a meeting in such circumstances. After Mr. Putnam had left, the committee decided on summoning a parish meeting to see whether they would give him a call.

Later in the day Mr. Putnam went to visit in the Thomas neighborhood, $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles away. It had the poorest roads & land & folks he had seen yet. "But there are souls there, & that is motive enough to lead a minister to such places. I have called on seven families." On his return the Committee waited upon Mr. Putnam to speak of their plans which for the first time made the whole case look serious. It was a fatiguing day. Mr. Putnam had "visited distant & rough parts of the parish A.M.—attended a funeral 3 miles in a different direction—then had a long interview with the committee—then visited a little at 4 Corners, 3 miles distant from funeral. In eve. I rested & conversed with Mr. & Mrs. D, Miss D. & Mrs. Greenough, about the peculiarly trying attitude of things. I retired in good season."

But the very possibility that he might now receive a call gave Mr. Putnam courage to again pay a visit at the parsonage and spend an hour with Mr. Bryant going over the house. Briefly he summarizes his observations: "it is of tolerably good size—almost new—no part papered—no window blinds—good pantry & store room & washroom—small kitchen—wood-house—well under cover, but water not good to drink, owing to pine curbing. Barn pretty good—garden grown over to weeds & grass—some fruit trees—part of (land) sandy & none very good—cellar, very good. Chambers (above) ill contrived—study over kitchen of some size. It is all good enough for a minister of him 'who had not where to lay his head.' Oh yes! no one sh^d. complain of such a house."

On his fourth Sabbath at Middleboro, Israel Putnam woke up feeling well. "The weather is dark & dismal out. But the Lord has given us three good sabbaths, & we must expect one stormy one. But Sab. is everything here; where people meet only once a week & come so far for it, & many in open wagons or on foot. It does not rain much but the wind is out; & it looks like the equinoctial storm." He preached A.M. on "In all thy ways acknowledge him & he shall direct thy paths" & P.M. "Without God in the world". He had about determined to remain another sabbath for an adjourned Parish Meeting had been called for Monday, Sept. 20. The need to organize the Parish anew had become clearer to the church members, "now they have got to commence the work of taxing them-

selves as parishoners. In the circumstances, the best friends of religion feel it desirable for me to remain. By being here I may be able to give a better direction of the form of the call, if it sh^d. come, i.e. as to time of payment of salary, a condition of some absence from the people on my part annually, &c &c. Besides, there are many things still to be inquired after by me, before I c^d. give an answer."

On Monday after a comfortable night's rest, Mr. Putnam felt "as well as I ever do on Monday." Mrs. Dillingham with her mother's & sister's help was busy preparing for the company. "She invites & expects the very highest C^o. in town—the Eddys, Westons & Thompsons to day—the Woods, Sturtevants & Washburns tomorrow." In the afternoon "I went again to visit the parsonage buildings." His impressions were of larger rooms, with pleasant prospects, the garret large. The water was better, the barn bigger, but the land about 7 not 10 acres. "But one must go through one bedroom to get to another. I suppose this would be just as necessary a trial for us as defective teeth or tender feet." He also saw the parsonage pew. "It is a long one & situated as Mr. Shapley's is in the North (Church at Po.) It is cushioned & has very good neighbors.. (The Pickens in front, the Rounsevilles, & Eben^z. Eddys behind.) There needs to be a great deal done about the Meeting House green, extending as it does down to parsonage & Mr. D's, to make it look well. The ground is uneven & it wants trees." On returning to the house he joined the company.

"It was (a) large & pleasant (company)—18 to sit down for tea—for poor Mrs. D. had no one to carry it round. Mary (Thomas) is far above such service." Next morning, Tuesday, thinking over the party he assured his wife they were "sensible, well cultivated folks. Their demeanor toward me was very respectful and affectionate. Parish & chh. affairs were the theme of much of the time, & all seem to speak as if they hoped I sh^d. be their minister. Sometimes, I feel it may be so—and then it seems a dream—that you & I with our dear children sh^d. be taken up by the hand of Prov. & dropped down here! Here on this pleasant hill to pray & educate our children under so strange a roof & to labor for souls of whom a little time since we knew nothing." At 4 o'clk he put down the Recorder and N. Y. Observer to join the company. "You see how early they visit, yes, even old Gen. W(ashburn) himself." They were joined by the Sturtevants and Judge Wood and Lady. "We have had a pleasant (visit), Judge W. &

wife are fine people—very solid.” After the company left, all sat at the kitchen fire to warm themselves as the weather was turning colder. (The kitchen of the old Inn was a large room with oak beams and a wide fireplace. Here for several generations the congregation of the Church at the Green had gathered at sabbath “noonings”. At one time Capt. Joshua Eddy and later his son, Zachariah Eddy Esq., had led the discussions. And on one occasion Benjamin Franklin is said to have attended, giving them copies of *Poor Richard’s Almanac*.” This custom was not looked upon with favor by Mr. Putnam who felt that the women of the congregation, especially, should not be sitting in the Meeting House, walking about, or sitting in Mrs. D’s room, “even in her kitchen”. It had been his plan to have an active organization of mothers in his church at Portsmouth with their interest centered on betterment of the church and the sabbath school. And a plan for such an organization at Middleboro seemed already to be forming in his mind. (Today this group in the church bears the name, Putnam.)

On Wednesday morning Mr. Putnam put on his long-sleeved thick flannel waistcoat. There was frost. He had spoken a number of times of the need for his old coat & pantaloons to use in the care of his horse. He had only two coats and pantaloons with him. One of the pantaloons had a small rip at the knee. His gown had proved extremely useful. But the lack of clean linen troubled him not a little. Washing his clothes was something he could not ask the kind Mrs. Dillingham to do. After attending the funeral of a child at 9 o’clk on this day, he read some and then visited several families. At young Mrs. Washburn’s he met Miss Shaw, daughter of O. Shaw, the musician; she played the Piano very finely—she played & sang “To Jesus the crown” &c., the music by her father. She was a teacher of music in the (Baptist) Academy.

Although it was still colder on Thursday, Mr. Putnam found the day so pleasant that he set out to visit some of the families remote 4 or 5 miles east, taking the towns of Cannan, Kingston & Plymouth in his course. His objective was Plymouth.

“I cannot describe to you my feelings in view of first meeting the great bay, where the May Flower floated in Dec. 1620, bearing the pilgrim settlers of N.E. On entering the town I met W^m. Lord of So. Berwick (Maine), who is teaching in Plymouth, & who devoted himself m^o. kindly to me, till he put me into the hands of Rev. Mr. Boutelle, who gave his whole P.M. to me. (Mr. Thomas Boutelle was pastor of Third Cong. Soc.

of Plym., 1833-37) We visited Great Hill, which contains the dust of the pilgrims & their descendants, in alm^o. numberless graves, & wh. overlooks Plym^o. harbour. We visited Pilgrim Hall—& the great Rock—part of it on the old spot & part carried $\frac{1}{2}$ mile, & deposited in front of Pilgrim Hall & surrounded with a high oval railing of iron, whose castings contain in large fair letters the names of the 21 men, who came in the first vessel, & which following one another make the complete circuit of the oval enclosure. I must leave the whole for verbal communication—adding only that the town is not happily located for beauty. It is improving in wealth & pop., has some fine buildings—Unitarianism & Universalism, & other forms, another spirit in religion than that of Brewster & Carver & Winslow, have much power in Plymouth. I took tea at Mr. Boutelle's. Br. Fuller (IWP's brother) will recollect him. He preached on sab. at North (Church) in 1833 when I was at the sickest."

"A little before sunset, I started, & had beautiful ride of 4 miles to Kingston—called on Rev. Mr. (Abraham) Jackson, (pastor of the Second or May Flower Cong. church, 1834-37)—then came 6 miles to Plympton & spent night at Rev. Mr. (Elijah) Dexter's. Very pleasant call & visit. Mr. Jackson had \$500 for salary—Mr. Boutelle in Plym^o. only \$700 & no house. Mr. D. not more than \$450 or 500—These ministers are very retired, humble, living in one story houses & get along very well. Their societies are small & their families too. (Mr. Dexter was pastor of Plympton church, 1809-51 when he came to Middleboro to live. His third wife was Lydia, dau. of Isaac & Lucy Sturtevant Thompson. Both he and his son, Rev. Mr. Henry Martyn Dexter, were friends with Mr. Putnam.)

On his return to Middleboro, on Friday, Mr. Putnam sat down to read about the Pilgrims, but he was interrupted by the brethren of the chh. coming together for some long standing business. Only about 16 or 17 brethren assembled. They requested him to go in & open the meeting with prayer. He did, tho' he was "tired". No one came to tell him the result of the meeting, until a passing brother mentioned that the meeting had been adjourned to Monday. "It did not occur to them, that I sh^d. wish to know what they had done." When he reached the house of Mr. Philander Washburn where he was to spend the night, the company including Judge Wood and wife, Gen. Washburn and wife, and Mrs. Pickens had begun tea. "We had a pleasant evening. At the close of it I was glad to retire to my chamber and open a parcel wh. the

Baggage waggon driver bro't me fr. Boston & wh. enclosed yr. letter to me. Am glad you saw Maj. Harlow. What you say of the feelings of the people of the North (church) tow^d. me is very gratifying. But I feel more & more that they are no longer mine; tho' I thank them for their kindness. I am sorry I made a remark about Mid. expectations of a minister's wife, wh. has troubled you. The Lord, I trust, will prepare me for what I have to do for him—& if so, I feel confident he will prepare you also. You w^d. have nothing to fear here, I think and in many respects, you w^d. have just what you wish—great seclusion from the world. However, I don't feel sanguine, that you will ever have the trial. Things here are moving slowly, if at all. They are well disposed, but they have not the enterprise & spirit & practical habit & zeal for God wh. the crisis calls for.

“With Divine leave I shall go to A(ndover) & bring dear Addy home. (He had left his step-daughter for a visit with her grandmother Osgood on his way to Mid.) I sh^d. be sorry to leave her at Berwick (where she had been attending school), if we sh^d. come to Mid. & yet I don't know but we sh^d. have to do it.”

No letter of Israel Putnam's records the events of his final Sunday or of his return to Portsmouth. In his diary, on his 50th birthday, Nov. 24, 1836, he reviews this period of his life, saying that he received a unanimous call from the church and a call, almost unanimous, from the Parish—to settle with them on a salary of \$600 pr. an. with the use of the parsonage. This call he accepted and was installed as 8th pastor of the First Cong. Church of Middleboro, October 28, 1835, his wife coming with him on that occasion. Rev. Jonathan French of Northampton preached the sermon. He had been Mr. Putnam's first choice among those friends of his days at Andover Theological Seminary. Among the pastors already mentioned who were present were Dexter, Cobb, Colby, Bigelow, Smalley, Paine, and Jackson. Rev. Dr. John Codman, whose pulpit at Dorchester Mr. Putnam had supplied during the summer, made the charge to the pastor. One delegate came from Old North Church, Portsmouth, N.H., Deac. David Libbey, and Mr. Putnam's father, Eleazer Putnam came as a delegate from Danvers.

RELEASE OF HEIRS OF ELIZABETH JOHNSON

Know all Men by these Presents that Whereas Elizabeth Johnson late of Danvers in the County of Essex and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, lately deceased died Seized of Certain personal property Intestate in the hands & Possession of Amos Buxton of the Same Danvers, which property by Law Accrued to us the subscribers which property We have received from the said Buxton to our plenary and full Satisfaction and Hereby Release Acquit & full discharge the said Amos Buxton from all Lawsuits Trouble or vexation of any kind, on account of the trust reposed in him, before recited.

Witness our hands the fifth day of February Anna Domini
1793

Benja ^a Lewis	Eunice Johnson	Daniel Johnson
Daniel Gould	Ebenezer Averil	William Parker
John Marvel	her	Lydia Parker her mark
Thomas Towne	Anna Averil	Stephen Gould
	mark	Mary Gould her mark
	Ebenezer Odel	James Johnson
	Sarah Odel	Elisha Hutchinson
	Ezra Johnson	Sarah Hutchinson

—Danvers Historical Society

FIRST PRINTED REPORT OF SCHOOL COMMITTEE TOWN OF DANVERS, 1839.

[Note: The school districts comprised the following parts of the town:

- No. 1. Wallis school, in central part of what is now Peabody
- No. 2, Danversport
- No. 3. Putnamville
- No. 4, Swan's Crossing (now Hathorne)
- No. 5. Danvers Centre, (now Highlands) (Wadsworth)
- No. 6. Felton's Corner, Sylvan Street, including parts of what are now Danvers and Peabody
- No. 7, 8 and 10, What was then known as West Danvers (Now Peabody)
- No. 9, In West Peabody, near Lynnfield line
- No. 11 and 12, part of the central part of Peabody
- No. 13. Danvers Plains (now Danvers Square)
- No. 14. Tapleyville

After the town of Peabody was set off from Danvers some of the numbers of the Districts were changed. The Plains became Dist. No. 1, Tapleyville, from 14 to 7 and a new Dist. of E. Danvers became No. 8.

The first report of the school committee was read at the annual town meeting in 1817 and filed away. This habit continued until 1835 when, for the next four years, the reports were recorded at length with interesting returns in Dr. Shed's book of school records. It was voted at the town meeting in 1839 to have the report printed.]*

REPORT

The recent legislation of the State, which requires that our Report shall be transmitted to the Secretary of the Commonwealth, marks a new era in the history of Common Schools; and invites us to a retrospective view of some of the doings of this town relative to these important institutions.

For more than twenty years have we been pursuing, in all its important particulars, the system of reporting the Schools at the annual town meeting, which is now to be put in practice throughout the Commonwealth.

At the annual meeting, March 18th, 1816, Nathan Felton,

* See "Schools in Danvers," Hurd's History of Essex County.

Esq., Daniel Putnam and Dr. Andrew Nichols, were chosen a Committee, "to look up the school affairs," and to report. On the 9th of April of the same year, said Committee reported among other things,—

"That it be proper and expedient to choose a School Committee, whose powers and duties shall be the same as is given to the ministers of the gospel, and the selectmen of the town by the laws of the Commonwealth, excepting such as have, or may be given to the school districts by a special vote of the town."

It was not till ten years subsequent to this, that the State made it the duty of the towns to choose such a Committee.

Another item in the report of the gentleman above named is in the following words:—

"It shall be the duty of the School Committee, to make a report of so much of their doings, and such other particulars respecting the several schools as they may deem worthy the consideration of the town, at their annual March meeting."*

This report was accepted. The town records, under date, March 17th, 1817, contain the following entry—

"The School Committee having made a report of the state of the schools,—Voted, that their report go on the files of the town."

The condition of our schools has been reported, we believe, on each successive year down to the present time. We, therefore, should have learned, ere this, from our experience, the probable effects of the law, which now requires all the towns in the State to pursue a course similar to that in which we have been moving for twenty-two years. Your Committee cannot doubt that its operations will be highly beneficial. Some of us felt and well remember the influences of this system, (immediately after its adoption,) upon both pupil and teacher. We know that then a new spirit was enkindled in some of our schools;—a spirit of study—persevering and intense study. We know too that our teachers then were vastly more efficient than those who stood at the master's desk in preceding winters. We believe that down to the present time, many of the pupils, and most of the teachers have continued to receive favorable impulses and valuable aid, from the practice here alluded to. Perhaps its effects as a whole,

* We are informed that this recommendation was suggested by, and conformed to the course pursued in Beverly, which it is understood was recommended by the late Abiel Abbott, D.D. of that town.

though less perceptible than at first, are at the present time as valuable as ever. The time was when Committees assigned distinctly to each school its relative rank. This course too often excited envy, and inflicted mortification. The course has been changed. Though the merits and faults of the several schools are set forth with as much distinctness as at any former period, yet there is no direct comparison of one school with another. The evils which attended the former course are believed not to hang thickly about us in our present way. The town, in our opinion, has reason to be gratified that it has so long been blessed with this means of giving efficiency to its schools, and has reason to congratulate her sister towns for their being obliged to avail themselves of the same favor.

At a meeting of the board, early in the year, three of its number were appointed a sub-committee to visit the schools. At that time the question came up, whether the summer schools, taught by females, were too be visited. Some members of the Committee believed that the law required that they should, and that the Committee had no discretionary power in this matter. There was a general belief, that an important influence might be exerted over them by the Committee, and that they should receive their share of our attention. Accordingly the Visiting Committee endeavored to meet the requirements of the law, and see each one of these schools as often as once a month. These schools will be noticed in our subsequent remarks, as well as the others. In thus adding to their own labors, and increasing the expense of the town, they are confident that they have been attempting to render a valuable service; and they trust that future committees will never fail to look after those primary schools, where our children are receiving their deepest and most lasting impressions.

Late in the autumn, the Committee appointed one of its number to lecture in each school district, "upon the duties of parents, pupils, and teachers in relation to common schools." This duty was attended to in every district, excepting No. 9, where there was no winter school. Of the effects of this measure you are the proper judges—and the Committee express no opinion. They will however, repeat one item of advice, which was then given in most of the districts; which was, that in all cases in which a prudential committee man should find it necessary or desirable to employ a teacher who has not been previously tried and approved in the town, he should have the individual examined by the Committee,

before he makes a contract;—if the examination be entirely satisfactory, he then can proceed with more confidence that he is obtaining one who is competent to the discharge of the important duties of the teacher; but should the individual be deficient in acquirements, there is entire liberty to refuse to employ him, and to obtain some other person. This course would remove some circumstances which are often embarrassing to the School Committee, and cause them to permit individuals to take charge of our schools, whom they very reluctantly recommend.—An individual presents himself for examination, with whom a definite bargain has been made, and who has come into the town prepared to spend the summer or winter; if it be a *master*, he comes to us late in the autumn or early in the winter, after nearly all the good teachers are taken up. We cannot therefore refuse to appropriate him, without subjecting *him* to some disgrace, to mortification, and inconvenience; neither can we do it without subjecting the *district* to the inconvenience of deferring the commencement of their school, until some other teacher can be procured, and this too at a time when it is not easy to find a competent substitute. Such considerations influence the Committee to give the legal certificate to some individuals, whom, if left to act more freely, they would refuse to appropriate; and thus the town is probably burthened occasionally with incompetent teachers, who would be kept out of our school houses, were the prudential committee to refuse to have any thing to say to such strangers as applied for the schools, until the School Committee had examined them. We feel and express a strong desire, that our advice on this subject should be complied with, by every prudential committee man in the town.

There is no doubt in our minds, that parents may do much to advance the education of their children, by occasionally visiting the schools;—especially by making it their custom to attend the examinations. The visiting committee have noticed with pleasure, that this duty is well attended to by the inhabitants of most of the districts;—but it was almost entirely forgotten in Nos. 7 and 8. These are the districts where this aid to the schools is more needed than in any others.

Many of the citizens of the town, have doubtless read the report of the able Secretary of the Board of Education upon School Houses. He proves by facts and arguments, which can hardly fail to move every parental heart, that our school

houses should be made comfortable. The progress of our children in learning, and also their health are greatly affected by the state of the atmosphere, and the structure of the seats in our school rooms. The visiting committee have paid some little attention to the rooms in which they have met the children of the town: and must earnestly recommend to the inhabitants of District No. 1, to provide some better room for the Wallace school; or, at least, some fixtures in the room, which shall be less barbarously torturing to their children than those on which they have racked them the last year. In No. 2, the house needs new fixtures and some different arrangement of seats. In No. 5, the external appearance of the house does no great credit to the taste of the district, and the seats are said to be very uncomfortable. The house in No. 6, is fast becoming venerable for its years—and the whole appearance tells us, that, if the inhabitants have a proper share of the spirit of the times, it will soon be subjected to the process of reform. In No. 12, a better and larger house is very much needed. In No. 13, the house which they have hitherto used, has a character so well known that we need not name it; the one they *are to have* will be, doubtless, very good.

The visiting committee believe that the law of the Commonwealth, which requires that every public school shall be visited as often as once a month, is wise and salutary. They are satisfied that a wise and efficient committee may exert a great and good influence over both teachers and pupils. They believe too, that it was their duty, however much they might be wanting in wisdom and efficiency, to endeavor to comply with both the letter and spirit of the law, and to watch the schools with great vigilance. They will not claim the merit of having discharged their whole duty; but they are able to say that they have made in most of the schools the legal number of visits, and have conducted examinations, and given counsel according to their ability.

Their course usually was, at the first visit, to conduct the examination themselves, and ascertain the attainments of the pupils. The character of each class was noted down as they proceeded. At the intermediate visits, the committee were but little more than spectators, noticing the methods and course of the teacher, and the habits of the scholars while going through with the ordinary exercises of the school; and, when about to leave, making such remarks, and giving such advice as the appearances of the school called for. At the closing examination, the teachers were requested to examine

District.	NAME OF FEMALE TEACHERS.	Length of School in weeks.	Whole Number.	Average Number.	Writing.	Arithmetic.	Geography.	Grammar.	History.	Natural Philosophy.	Botany.	Book of Common Sense.	Rhetoric.	Composition.	Season.
No. 1	Lydia Richardson.	48	36	31		16	10								Year.
2	Elizabeth P. Pope.	27	44	33	14	17	18	6	4						summer.
3	Fidelia Kettella.	23	44	32	12	8	7	5							"
4	Margaret Putnam.	18	46	32	13	19	18	5	6						"
5	Julia Ann Putnam.	12	21	15	14	7	11	8	3						"
4	Harriott A. Pope.	20	57	41	21	32	17	10		5					"
6	Catharine P. Hardy.	24	88	58	20	20	18	14	8	1		8			"
7	Mary Ann Foster and Mary Phelps.	15 1-2 4 1-2	28	18	7	6	4	4	3						"
8	Sarah E. Loring.	14	60	45	23	30	13	4	5						"
9	Eda Newhall.	29	38	24	17	20	15	2							"
10	Maria L. Smiley.	21 1-2	57	42	21	13	19	11		3		3			"
11	Lydia E. Pierce.	17	58	45		21	6								"
12	Emily Gould.	16	86	62	32	30	27	12	15						"
13	Hannah J. Putnam.	24	44	33	15	19	20	9							"

District.	NAMES OF MALE TEACHERS.	Length in Weeks.	Whole Number.	Average Attendance.	Writing.	Arithmetic.	Geography.	Grammar.	History.	Nat. Philosophy.	Astronomy.	Book-keeping.	Algebra.	Surveying.	Composition.	Political Class Book.	Chemistry.	Season.
No. 1	Charles Northend.	44	94	90	90	61	73	35	39	13	16	1	126	6				year.
2	Amasa S. Kelly.	20	70	50	38	57	42	35	24	8		1						winter.
3	Moses B. Haseltine.	16	55	48	38	54	168	17				2	10					
4	John D. Philbrick.	16	40	35	33	51	25	15	5			2	20					
5	Alanson Valentine.	16	79	58	46	36	24	15			9	3						
	Rufus C. Hardy.											5						
6	Rev Mr Tilton, and Alanson Valentine.	19	86	62	44	49	17	24		5			1		4			
7	Israel H. Putnam.	11	36	22	25	26	13	9	7									
8	William C. Prescott.	20	60	42	39	38	11	8	3									
10	O. A. Woodbury.	15	60	48	33	37	21	18	14	10		4	3					
11	Joseph Osgood, Jr.	34	130	76	97	130	59	34	50		2	1						
12	Samuel W. King.	21	98	78	62	57	36	27	13	3		1	5					
13	Moses Clarke.	12	60	50	46	49	38	33	6					some.	5			

their several classes on the studies that had been attend to, the committee adding many questions to those which were put by the instructors, and obtaining as good a knowledge of the improvements made by the school, as the time would permit. The character of each class was again noted down. And from these notes, compared with those made at the first visit, we formed our estimate of the success of the teacher and the character of the school. The result we will soon state; but, according to the custom of our predecessors, must first insert a table, noting the length of each school, the number of pupils, the number in each branch of study, &c. As all the pupils in our schools have attended to reading and spelling, we give no particular account of the number.

The preceding table contains all the statistics which the Committee deemed it important to collect.

They will now attempt to characterise the several schools—a difficult and delicate operation; one in which they can hardly hope to satisfy *themselves*; and certainly not all those whose labors, skill and success they are about to describe.

DISTRICT No. 1.

The Wallis or primary school in this district has made decidedly good progress under the care of its judicious, patient, and faithful instructress, Miss Richardson. At their first visit the Committee were apprehensive that the members of this school were not advancing in the ways of knowledge as fast as might reasonably be expected—but at subsequent visits these apprehensions were entirely dispelled—so that they are happy to be able to report, that at their last examination, so orderly, so prompt and correct in their reading and recitations, were these little scholars, as to speak emphatically their own praise, and bear testimony to the worth of their teacher. Reading, spelling, recitations in geography and arithmetic, all were spirited and good.

No. 2.

That school which was taught by Miss Pope was highly satisfactory to the Committee. In regard to order, writing, spelling, arithmetic and history, the children acquitted themselves very well—while they surpassed our reasonable expectations in reading and geography. The instructress was prompt and faithful in the discharge of her duties.—The other

school in this district was well conducted and disciplined by Miss Kettelle. Reading, writing, spelling and order were good; while in arithmetic and geography the children acquitted themselves still better; the exhibitions of the school, indicated more than ordinary thoroughness on the part of the instructress, in explaining and teaching the first principles or rudiments of the several branches, which she was called upon to teach.

No. 3.

Miss M. Putnam has the approbation of the Committee as the instructress of this school. In the reading, spelling and order, also in the recitations in geography, history, and arithmetic, there was manifested much to commend. So that we are able to speak in terms of praise in relation to both teacher and school; though the exercises in grammar were not quite as creditable, as we trusted we might witness.

No. 4.

In this school, taught by Miss J. A. Putnam, were found prominent excellencies together with defects. The order and the recitations in history were commendable; the reading was of *high* order; in arithmetic the pupils were tolerably ready and correct in giving answers to sums, but were not well acquainted with first principles; in grammar they were prompt and correct at parsing, but were not sufficiently familiar with the definitions in the grammar. Here we found a class in botany, (the only one in the public schools of the town) which furnished some neat herbariums, and had formed a commendable acquaintance with the science. Several compositions were read by the instructress, with which the Committee were pleased. As a whole, we can call it a good school.

No. 5.

Here we found prompt and good reading and spelling; fair writing; and an acquaintance with geography, history, arithmetic, and grammar, that was highly gratifying. A recitation in natural philosophy was uncommonly good; some compositions were examined that did credit to the writers. We should have been still better pleased with this school, had the pupils manifested more acquaintance with punctuation. The prevailing spirit and general character of this school gave us much pleasure, and did credit to Miss Pope.

No. 6.

This large school made commendable progress, under the charge of Miss Hardy. The reading and the various recitations were very fair. There was seen in this instance, rather more of the school spirit of a score of years ago, than we found in most other instances—a little less of the indulgent and sympathizing friend—a little more of the strict school-mistress; not that it was a very prominent case of the kind; we notice this trait without designing to mark it either for censure or approbation, but for the purpose of illustrating the fact, that we are not obliged to go always to those who have an *excess* of tenderness *in manners*, in order to find good teachers.

No. 7.

This school which was taught fifteen or sixteen weeks by Miss Foster, and between four and five by Miss Phelps, did well under the care of each of them. Miss Foster, infused much of her own marked energy into the pupils—creating in them a more spirited and natural manner of *reading* than we have elsewhere found among children, whose minds were not more cultivated;—in all respects the school was advancing well while under her control. The school continued to do well after it came into the hands of Miss Phelps.

No. 8.

We wish to be distinctly understood when we say that the circumstances, under which Miss Loring commenced and closed her labors here, were such that we could form but an imperfect opinion of her merits as an instructress. In justice to her, we must protest against any inference being drawn from our report unfavorable to her. This school has long been far behind most others in town. Appearances indicate that it is difficult to govern, and that any teacher must meet with discouraging obstacles. One of the Committee noticed particularly that out of forty three pupils, there were but three who read with promptness and fluency. The countenances and manners of many of the pupils indicated a reluctant obedience to the laws of the school. Added to these difficulties, Miss L. commenced her labors here in apparently feeble health, after a few weeks of toil became seriously ill, and was obliged to leave the school without affording the Committee

an opportunity to attend a closing examination. By the illness of the instructress the school was shortened, and without imputing blame to the teacher, with whose appearance in the school we were favorably impressed, we must express a fear that the school made but very limited progress.

No. 9.

In this small district there is no winter school. Miss Newhall was thought by the Committee to meet the wants of this district—and, though the school was not equal to many others in the town, we do not hesitate to say that Miss N. did very well in her place.

No. 10.

This school, when seen by the Visiting Committee, was believed to be doing nearly as well as other schools, which we have spoken of in terms of commendation—we have no doubt that the progress here made was creditable to the instructress and pupils; but, owing to an erroneous apprehension on the part of the instructress, that a notice of the time of examination given by her to a member of the School Committee, would be extended by him to the Visiting Committee, we failed to learn seasonably the time when the school closed; and consequently had ourselves no closing examination. No blame can attach to the instructress or any other person in regard to this.—A member of the board, but not of the Visiting Committee, saw the school near its close, and has given us the impression that he thought it *fair*.

No. 11.

With the school here your Committee was much pleased. We have seldom met with better reading by children so young, than we found in this place.—The recitations in geography and arithmetic were very good, as was also the order. Miss Peirce appeared to manage the school with much discretion and efficiency.

No. 12.

Miss Gould deserves much credit for the improvement made in the large school under her charge. In some of the schools children of the same age were more advanced than here—but

we witnessed few cases in which greater improvement was made during the summer. The reading was much improved. The recitations in history, geography, arithmetic and grammar were all very fair.

No. 13.

The Committee witnessed improvements in this school under the care of Miss Putnam.—The reading and spelling were commendable. The recitations in geography, arithmetic and grammar had some excellencies; but we should have been glad to have found more thoroughness in these branches. If allowed to reason from what we know of the opinions of the district in relation to a teacher, we conclude that Miss P. and her school did not give us a fair sample of their doings, and that more might be said in their praise than the *examination alone* authorises us to bestow.

Having closed our account of the schools taught by females, we proceed to speak of those which were under the care of male teachers.

No. 1.

Mr. Northend, who has been favorably reported in years past, continues his well doing. The school under his care moves on in an orderly and quiet manner, regularly making fair advances in learning. The reading and spelling by his youngest class were not as good as we hoped to find; but the other three classes acquitted themselves in these branches better, doing credit to both pupils and teacher. More distinctness, and greater vivacity of manner in the case of many individuals, however, was desirable.—The first class in grammar failed to come quite up to the expectations of the Committee—the second passed a *good examination*.—The youngest class in arithmetic was deficient in promptness—but the greater part of the school appeared well—very well, in this branch.—Recitations in history were fair, while those in geography and philosophy were of high order. The writing was quite good, and the compositions quite creditable to the youthful composers.

No. 2.

The appearances of this school were not very satisfactory to the Committee. Mr. Kelly is apparently an estimable young

man, but he failed to maintain as much order, and to awaken and sustain as much of the spirit of study as is essential to any considerable progress in learning. It was the misfortune, not the fault, of this district or its prudential committee, to employ a teacher, who failed to meet their wants, but whose failure was not so great as to render it obviously desirable to remove him from his place. Individual pupils in the school acquitted themselves well, and passed a very fair examination. But in the school generally, there was an *unusual lack* of distinctness in articulation, and likewise of spirit and accuracy in recitation. It is deemed unnecessary to refer more particularly to the several classes and studies of this school.

No. 3.

We pass with pleasure to our account of Mr. Haseltine. Evidences of his *energy, accuracy and aptness to teach*, were manifested at each of our visits to this school. In all the different branches of their studies, his pupils had manifestly made good progress, and the classes were so uniform in merit, that we have no occasion to be more specific in our account of them. We must not, however, omit to say that the compositions of some of the members of this school were uncommonly good.

No. 4.

At the commencement of his term we feared that Mr. Philbrick might fail to meet the reasonable demands of the district; but are happy in being able to state, that both he and his school made progress that was *highly* gratifying to the Committee and creditable to themselves. We have seldom found in school so general and thorough acquaintance with the various marks of punctuation as was possessed here; and as a necessary consequence, we found some of the best readers here, that we have listened to in the town. The various recitations nearly approached to uniformity in character, and were very fair. Here several of the pupils favored the Committee, and gained much credit, by reading their own compositions, which in themselves were *very good*.

No. 5.

Mr. Valentine, thinking that the Committee were desirous of taking examination of the schools *entirely into their own*

hands, and of putting *all the questions*, voluntarily placed his school under great disadvantage. The course pursued at his examination was much better suited to ascertain what his pupils did not know, than what they did know. It is probable, therefore, that he may be in danger of receiving less approbation as a teacher than he deserves. Against this danger the Committee feel bound in duty to protect him as far as they are able. Reading and spelling were not as uniform here as we found them in some other schools; many individuals were deficient; but many others were well skilled in these branches; so that the school as a whole, was well in regard to these particulars.—The younger classes in arithmetic, were very fair specimens of improvement, while the higher classes were uncommonly ready and correct.—In grammar, the second class rubbed rather hard in some spots, though in the main it went glibly—while the first class acquitted itself uniformly well.—The appearance of the school in algebra, history, geography and other branches not specified, was creditable to the instructor and satisfactory to the Committee.

No. 6.

This district had the misfortune to employ an inexperienced teacher, who failed to satisfy their reasonable demands. After having been in the school for nine weeks, he concluded to leave his place. His immediate successor was Rev. Mr. Tilton; those members of the Committee who saw the school while under his care, thought that it was doing tolerably well; but he had been teaching only seven weeks, when he was invited to resume his professional labors in a neighboring town, and the district kindly released him from his engagements here.—Next came Mr. Valentine, and though he was in the school but three weeks, we found at the examination, an animated and orderly school. In all their various exercises, the pupils acquitted themselves well. Memory had been made to dust and scour the treasures which had been committed to her in winters past, and she brought them out bright and abundant; doubtless also she showed some pearls which had been acquired recently; so much was shown to us, that the school must, even under its great disadvantages, be permitted to retain its highly respectable rank.

No. 7.

This small school at its commencement was considerably behind many of the others. At its close it could not take rank among our best schools, though the instructor acquitted himself well—so well, that the Committee would gladly see him having charge of some one of our larger and more advanced schools. The reading and spelling here were quite fair, excepting the attempts by the larger boys, who are behind all others of their age in the town:—the teacher found them miserable readers, and they were but little better when the term closed. We are not aware that the cause of this is any fault on the part of either teacher or pupil; and must ask the parents whether they have not been guilty of keeping their sons out of school to a very unjustifiable extent. The recitations in geography, history, grammar and arithmetic were, as a whole, worthy of commendation; and we can bestow the mead of fair praise upon Mr. Putnam.

No. 8.

In each of the last two annual reports, you have received intelligence that this benighted district was favored with the dawning of a brighter day. If the sun of such a day has not yet appeared above the horizon, it is not the fault of Mr. Prescott. Amid discouragements and obstacles that would dishearten most men, he labored through five long months, with energy, zeal and gratifying success. But, if our impressions are correct, parents have complained of the wholesome corrections which were needful to the maintenance of order, and to the securing of a respectful deportment on the part of the pupils towards their teacher. Where many parents manifest no interest in the school, expecting now and then a resentful one towards the teacher for his salutary correction of their children; where a sulkiness of disposition has, we fear, been suffered to grow unchecked in a considerable number of those who by their age and attainments, will almost necessarily give a character to the school; where parents do not attend examinations—and where the larger scholars have been accustomed to turn upon their heels and go home, whenever, upon approaching the school-house, they have seen the chaise of the committee man in the yard; where all these things exist to some considerable extent, it is unreasonable to expect, that in one, or even two seasons, a school can be brought up

to take a high, or even a respectable rank. But under circumstances like these; and where, too, sickness has been laid upon a large number of the scholars, interrupting their attendance and impairing their powers, Mr. Prescott has caused more improvement in the reading of his first class, than we have witnessed in any other school—has drilled into them a good knowledge of the first principles of arithmetic—has caused a fair improvement in all the different branches of study, has maintained good order, and induced his pupils to attend school on examination day. For accomplishing thus much he is entitled to great credit; and if the inhabitants of the district will well perform their duties in future, we doubt not that the cheering light will continue to increase; and that better days for the children will soon come.

No. 10.

Mr. Woodbury has again done well in this school; his usefulness to the school as a whole, however, is we believe less than it would have been, had the number of classes and the variety of studies, attended by a few individuals, been less. Whether so many different studies, viz. grammar, arithmetic, algebra, chemistry, philosophy and astronomy were attended to by the same individuals, in consequence of the advice of the teacher, at their own request, or at the request of the parents, is unknown to us. Nor should we care to state which, were we informed. We allude to this variety for the purpose of expressing the opinion, that the course is not the most profitable for the pupils themselves, whose minds are so often turned from one subject to another; and also that the school, as a whole, is by this means deprived of attention by the teacher to the common branches of study, to which it is equitably entitled. As is to be expected under the circumstances, we are unable to speak as well of the important branch, *reading*, in this school as in several others; the same is true to some extent of the recitations in geography and arithmetic. We do not design however to speak of the school as strikingly deficient in these particulars. In the higher branches the pupils appeared to advantage, and did credit to its teacher.

No. 11.

We pity the man who has been doomed to furnish such a monument of labor and patience as Mr. Osgood's School

Register. There we find the names of *one hundred and thirty* different pupils, and we could not in conscience call Mr. O. an idle man, if we knew that he had done nothing more than keep this Register. But he has performed a vast amount of other labor.—It is, in our judgment, obviously an impolitic course for this district to put so many pupils under the care of one teacher. Their children cannot be expected to make very rapid progress in learning, where so many are to be kept in order, and instructed by a single individual. The evils resulting from the great size of the school are felt, doubtless, by the district, and we anticipate either a division of the school or the employment of an assistant teacher.—Mr. Osgood has done well—the order of the school was good; the exercises in reading and spelling, together with the various recitations, showed that each one of these many pupils had made a perceptible advance on the road to learning. Several of the classes in arithmetic were uncommonly good. We know not that any thing more could be expected of a teacher, than Mr. Osgood has accomplished.

No. 12.

This school also is quite too large. Mr. King returns us an average attendance as great as Mr. Osgood's; and his labors were augmented by both an inconvenient school room, and a great variety of studies. *As reported by the Committees* of last year and the present, this school will gain the distinction of having made greater progress than any other in the town. The school appeared well in all the common branches, as reading, spelling, grammar, geography, arithmetic and history. The brief exercises in the Political Class Book, algebra and book keeping were highly satisfactory; while a class of boys gave us the impression, that they were better acquainted with natural philosophy, than pupils are often found to be in our common schools.

No. 13.

This school must fare as well at our hands as almost any other. Mr. Clarke, firmly holds the reputation he had acquired in previous years, of a good teacher. The variety of studies, (we say it to the praise of the school) the variety of studies was less here than in most districts. We say too, and perhaps it is a consequence of the fact just stated, that we

have nowhere else, found so few poor readers and reciters—nowhere else found improvement extended more generally to every pupil, and in every branch of study. There was such uniformity in the character of all that we saw in the school that we are unable, were we willing, to point to any class as greatly superior to the others, or to any one as obviously deficient.

If your patience will allow you to listen a moment longer, we should be glad to say that the schools of the town, have, as a whole, appeared to be doing much, for the education and improvement of those who are fast coming up to the places in society which you now hold. We rejoice that it is thus; and earnestly appeal to you, never to be backward in efforts to sustain and improve these institutions, which are fitted to send the rills of learning and virtue, constantly and widely among the great mass of the children—among the men and the women of the next age—among those to whose keeping we are soon to entrust all the valuable institutions with which God in his kind Providence is blessing us. We appeal to you, to go on with unfaltering and unwearied steps, in the support of all measures which promise to give efficiency to these, the most important,—*incomparably the most important*, of all the institutions of learning, in this land of colleges, academies and private schools.

Since the above was written, your Committee have learned that the Legislature has imposed a new duty upon several of our larger districts. The substance of the new law, as we are informed, is, that in every district school, where there is an average attendance of fifty scholars or more, there shall be employed a female assistant to the principal teacher, unless the town or the district otherwise orders. Should the schools be of the same size the coming year, as they were the year past, the law will require an assistant in districts Nos. 6 and 12, both summer and winter; in No. 1, through the year; in Nos. 2, 5, 11 and 13 in the winter.

A statute of the Commonwealth requires the School Committee to make return *upon oath*, of the amount of money raised by taxes for the support of schools, including *only* teachers' wages, board and fuel. We desire the town, to save our successors the necessity of stretching their consciences, by changing the form of the vote, by which they make the appropriations for schools, so as to make it conform to the language of the statute.

All which is respectfully submitted by the

Visiting Committee, { ALLEN PUTNAM,
MILTON P. BRAMAN,
JOHN M. AUSTIN.

Danvers, April 1st, 1839.

At the adjournment of the Annual Meeting, holden April 1, 1839, the foregoing Report was submitted to the town, and accepted—and the Clerk was directed to forward an attested Copy of the same to the Secretary of the Commonwealth, on or before the first day of May next.

Attest,

JOSEPH SHED, *Town Clerk.*

BILL FOR COFFIN

Danvers October the 31 1823

The Estate of Mr. Amos Buxton debtor to Simon Mudge
to making a coffin for him \$3.75

Received payment

Simon Mudge

—*Danvers Historical Society*

RECEIPT FOR DAMAGES

We, Job Hutchinson and Jesse Hutchinson agree to pay the costs charged by the Justice who recognized Robert Putnam, Asa Putnam, and Jere L. Hutchinson, to repair the window, to pay Mr. Swinerton for his trouble, and to pay all reasonable charges in the case, provided the prosecution against said boys is discontinued, and not pursued at Court

March 9, 1822

Job Hutchinson
Jesse Hutchinson

April 9 1822 Rec^d the costs above mentioned Jn^o W. Proctor

—*Danvers Historical Society*

CURE FOR SCARLET FEVER AND ERYSIPELAS

North Danvers

Take 2/3ds of a Tumbler of home made vinegar

Neutralize it with Pearl ash

Take a teacup, put into it 1½ tea spoon full of common salt and one table spoon full of vinegar and dissolve it well, then fill up the cup with boiling water. then take a table spoonfull of the mixture from the cup and one tea spoon full from the Tumbler every half hour

For all Erysipelas and Scarlet Fever

Perfect cure

S. S. Fitch

—*Danvers Historical Society*

LEASE OF BLACKSMITH SHOP

This Indenture made the first day of April in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty five: Witnesseth that I Solomon Wilkins of Middleton in the County of Essex Esquire. Do hereby Lease demise & let unto Eben Case of Danvers in the County aforesaid Black smith, A Blacksmith shop & tools, situate in Danvers and standing on land of Samuel Small, but improved by Moses Gould, with all the appurtenancies & privilages there to belonging to hold for the term of one year from the date aforesaid My intention is to let all the tools that was sold & delivered to me by a Bill of Sale from David Wilkins: the said Eben Case yealding and paying therefor the rent of twenty five Dollars, the said Eben Case doth promise to pay twelve dollars of the said rent on or before the twentieth day of May next and to make up and complete the whole of said rent on or before the second day of April A.D. 1826 to use the shop and tools in good Black smith like manner make no strip nor waist nor suffer any to be made - - - and the Lessor may enter to view and make improvements and expel the Lessee if he shall fail to pay the rent as aforesaid, or make or suffer any strip or waist, and the Lessee to quit and Deliver up the Premises to the Lessor Peacably and quietly at the end of said term in as good order as the same now is or may be put into by the Lessor Reasonable use and wearing thereof excepted In witness whereof we the parties above mentioned have hereunto interchangably set our hands and seals the year and day first above written

Solomon Wilkins
Eben Case

—*Danvers Historical Society*

NECROLOGY

MRS. MARGUERITE (GODFREY) ARMITAGE died in her fifty-fourth year on June 27, 1949, after a short illness at her home in Dublin, N. H. She was born in Lynn, Massachusetts, the daughter of the late William R. and Lillian (Judkins) Godfrey. She was a graduate of Holten High School in the class of 1914, and a member of the class of 1917 at Framingham Normal School, now Framingham Teachers' College. On January 12, 1917 she was married to Albert T. Armitage, of Danvers, and went to Portland, Maine, to live. From 1918 to 1944 the Armitages made their home in Danvers, moving in June, 1944 to Dublin, N. H., and maintaining an apartment in Boston. Their many friends in Danvers were shocked and grieved to learn of Mrs. Armitage's sudden passing away. A devoted wife and mother, and a loyal friend, her going is a keen loss.

She was a member of the Middleton Congregational Church, a life member of the Danvers Historical Society, a member of the General Israel Putnam Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, the Dublin Garden Club, the Dublin Lake Club, the Women's Republican Club of Boston.

Besides her husband, she leaves a daughter, Mrs. Philip McLellan, a son, Godfrey, a granddaughter, Martha McLellan, all of Dublin, N. H., and a brother, Raymond J. Godfrey, of Danvers.

Funeral services were held in Emmanuel Church, Dublin, N. H., on June 29, 1949, Reverend Edric A. Weld officiating. Burial was in Walnut Grove Cemetery, Danvers, with the committal service conducted by Reverend Paul S. McElroy.

DR. JOHN H. NICHOLS, a native of Danvers and Superintendent of the State Infirmary at Tewksbury for 40 years, died Saturday, Nov. 26, 1949 at the age of 83. He was born in Danvers, the son of Andrew and Elizabeth (Stanley) Nichols. After attending the local schools, he graduated from Harvard Medical School in 1891. He served as intern at the institution of which he became superintendent a few

years later. For a short time he had a private practice in Chelmsford. Dr. Nichols retired from his position several years ago.

He married Oda Howe of this town who predeceased him. He left a brother, Rev. William S. Nichols, retired Unitarian minister and two sisters, the Misses Mary E. and Margaret A. Nichols, all of Danvers. He also left several nieces and nephews.

Dr. Nichols was a native of the Hathorne section of town but had his home at 11 Peabody Avenue at the time of his death. He was a member of the American Psychiatric Association, the New England Society of Psychiatry, American Medical Association, Mass. Medical Society and the Harvard Club of Boston. He had been a member of the Danvers Historical for some years and was much interested in the early history of the town as his father, Andrew Nichols, had been.

Funeral services were held from the Unitarian-Universalist Church with Rev. Bradford Gale of Salem officiating. Burial was in the Preston Street Cemetery in Danvers.

JASPER MARSH, a well known resident and businessman, died December 7, 1949 at his home, 155 Centre Street, after a sudden illness, at the age of 75 years.

He was born in Peabody, son of Francis and Caroline (Pope) Marsh. He attended Peabody schools and was a graduate of Mass. Agricultural College, now State College, in 1895. He was captain of the football team at the college for two years.

Mr. Marsh entered the lamp manufacturing industry in 1900, when he founded the Consolidated Electric Lamp Company on Holten Street. He moved it to Lynn in 1928, under the name Champion Lamp Works. Subdivisions of this plant are the Vulcan Electric Company in Danvers and the Heinze Electric Company of Lowell. He was President of the Lamp company at the time of his death.

He was a member of Mosaic lodge, A. F. & A. M., Rotary Club and Chamber of Commerce, all of Danvers, and Essex County Electrical Club. He was a life member of the Historical Society which he joined in 1921. He served the Society as President for several years and was much interested in the

welfare of the organization. His wit and humor contributed much to the meetings and his presence is greatly missed.

He is survived by his wife, Anna (Peabody) Marsh, a daughter, Mrs. Nancy Gares of West Africa, two sons, James A. and John P. Marsh and a brother, Alden P. Marsh, of Danvers, also a grandchild.

Funeral services were held at the First Church, Danvers Highlands, in which he was long active. The Rev. Adrien R. Aeschliman officiated and the male choir of the church sang. After cremation, the ashes were buried in Walnut Grove cemetery.

MISS SUSAN A. BODGE, of 21 Ash Street, died at her home on Dec. 10, 1949 at the age of 77 years. She was born in Peabody, the daughter of Jacob G. and Sophia (Hart) Bodge, but made her home in Danvers for the past 25 years. She was a member of the Park Street Universalist-Unitarian Church of Peabody. Miss Bodge had been a member of the Historical Society since 1935 and had served as assistant curator.

She was survived by two brothers, Freeman P. Bodge of Peabody and Benjamin H. Bodge of Lake Helen, Florida and several nieces and nephews. Rites were conducted at her home by Rev. Harold C. Gale of Beverly and Rev. Raymond A. Swain of Peabody. Cremation followed.

MISS ISABEL B. TAPLEY, died at her home, 16 Holten Street, Dec. 27, 1949 at the age of 86. She was a life-long resident of the town, having been born here on March 12, 1863, daughter of Gilbert A. and Sophia (Dodge) Tapley.

Miss Tapley was educated in the local schools and was a graduate of Bradford Academy. She was a member of the Maple Street Congregational Church and was a tireless worker in its various activities especially in the Sunday School, until continued ill health prevented her participation in church work. She was also a member of the Danvers Visiting Nurse Association since its organization and served as treasurer for more than 20 years.

She was a direct descendant of the first Gilbert Tapley who settled in Salem, later Danvers, in the early 17th century.

She was much interested in the Historical society which she joined in 1925 and later became a life member. She was also a member of the Danvers Women's Association. She had travelled extensively, both in this country and abroad.

With her brother, Walter A. Tapley, she gave their home on High Street to the town of Danvers for use of Hunt Memorial Hospital in 1927.

Miss Tapley left a nephew, Gilbert H. Tapley, of Winchester and four grandnieces. Funeral services were held from the Crosby Funeral Home and were conducted by Rev. Paul McElroy.

FRANK T. FERGUSON died at Salem Hospital on Jan. 18, 1950 at the age of 68 years. He was born in Danvers, the son of Charles F. and Emma (Dickey) Ferguson.

Mr. Ferguson took an active part in town affairs. He was president of the Danvers Home for the Aged and a former member and clerk of the Danvers finance committee. He was a retired trust officer of the Boston Safe Deposit Company and a member of the Bank Officers' Association of Boston. He was also a member of Amity lodge, A. F. & A. M., Holten Arch Chapter and of the First Church at Danvers Highlands, of which he was a former moderator. He joined the Historical Society in 1914 and was a regular attendant at its meetings when health and business allowed. He had spent several winters of late in Florida. He married Alice Peabody who died a few years ago.

Mr. Ferguson leaves a brother, Ralph Ferguson and a sister, Mrs. Martha Reed, both of Danvers. Funeral services were held from the Crosby Funeral Home, Rev. Adrien Aeschliman officiating.

FRED W. BUSHBY died at his home, 17 Washington Street, Peabody, April 9, 1950, in his 79th year. Born in Peabody, he was the son of Horace and Susan L. (Gray) Bushby. He was president of the Peabody Historical Society and always had a great interest in the early history of his native City, formerly South Danvers. He had been a member of the Danvers Historical Society since 1929 and was a regular attendant

at the meetings as long as his health permitted. He gave many interesting talks on various subjects of local interest.

Mr. Bushby was vice president and director of the Warren Five Cents Savings Bank, Peabody, and treasurer of the Salem Storage Grocery. He was a member of the Park Street Church of Peabody. He was for many years a grocer on Main Street, Peabody.

His wife, Ida A. (Tigh) Bushby, a noted organist and musician, died May 28, 1949. He is survived by a brother, Philip O. Bushby, of New Jersey and a sister, Mrs. Roger C. Merrill of Peabody. Services were held in the Park Street Church and burial was in Cedar Grove Cemetery, Peabody.

